

REVITALIZATION OF THE WAIKĪKĪ WORLD WAR I  
MEMORIAL NATATORIUM:  
COMMEMORATING THE SOLDIERS OF HAWAI'I

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This doctorate project is dedicated to and in memory of the Hawaiian boys who gave up their lives in service under the United States Armed Forces, the Hawaiian boys and girls who provided aid during the Great War and the Hawaiian swimmers who proved to nations that even the smallest can change the view of the world.

## ABSTRACT

Memories of the past embodied by post war memorials are losing their significance for the local community as society changes over time. Once lost, indifference can follow, which leads to the decay of once prominent monuments. Preservation of war memorials needs to be addressed to protect the original intent behind their design and continue to commemorate those who lost their lives during war. The Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium is undergoing this state of negligence and ignorance. My dissertation addresses a deeper insight on the forgotten part of Hawaiian history that people are unaware of on the significance of the Memorial Natatorium. To take this further, knowing the stories of those who sacrificed themselves and the impact the Memorial Natatorium brought to Hawai'i's people will ensure that the memory of them will be carried through generations. Chronological implementation of history gives proper insight on why the Memorial Natatorium was built and the events that occurred leading to its closure. Additionally, speaking to individuals who can speak for the deceased Great War veterans allows for restoration procedures to move further. By analyzing this data, a narrative strategy can be applied to revitalize memorials that are flawed in connecting with their ever- changing society.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AAU – Amateur Athletic Union

CJS – Christopher J. Smith

DD – Designated Destroyer

MIT – Massachusetts Institute of Technology

ROTC – Reserve Officers' Training Corps

ST - Saint

US – United States

USS – United States Ship

WWI – World War I

## INTRODUCTION

The Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium is the only monument in Hawai'i on the list of the first 50 World War I memorials nationwide announced by the federal World War One Centennial Commission and the Pritzker Military Museum & Library.<sup>1</sup> If this national honor doesn't ring "significant" to local communities, then commemoration of the men and women of Hawai'i is left out of Hawaiian history. So why is this memorial significant? First, the Memorial Natatorium is a "living memorial," a site commemorating those lost and providing an opportunity to interact, honoring the men and women of Hawai'i who served the United States in World War I. It also celebrates Hawai'i's indigenous swimming traditions, which peaked at the turn of the century when Hawai'i thrived in her culture and history. The Honolulu Advertiser announces the opening day:

"Hawai'i's memorial to her World War heroes will be dedicated tonight at 8 o'clock when Governor Wallace R. Farrington and officials of the American Legion formally dedicate the edifice, and Duke Kahanamoku, Hawai'i's greatest champion for a dozen years, and a vast majority of the fastest swimming stars of the present generation play their parts in the greatest National Swimming championships ever staged by the American A.A.U."<sup>2</sup>

The Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium has been closed to the public since 1963 because of disrepair and neglect by the local and state governments.<sup>3</sup> With its closure, there is a lost historical connection forged during the time Hawai'i was a U.S. territory and the service her people did to welcome U.S. military fighting the Great War. The Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium should be restored and revitalized because it commemorates the men and women in Hawai'i who served the United States in World War I as well as Olympic champion Duke Kahanamoku and other famous Hawaiian swimmers who popularized indigenous swimming in Hawai'i at the turn of the century.

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<sup>1</sup> Friends of the Natatorium. "Natatorium named official WWI Centennial Memorial". 29 September 2017

<sup>2</sup> Honolulu Advertiser. "Hawaii Will Honor War Dead Tonight". 24 August 1927, 1.

<sup>3</sup> Friends of the Natatorium. "History of the Natatorium". 28 July 2016

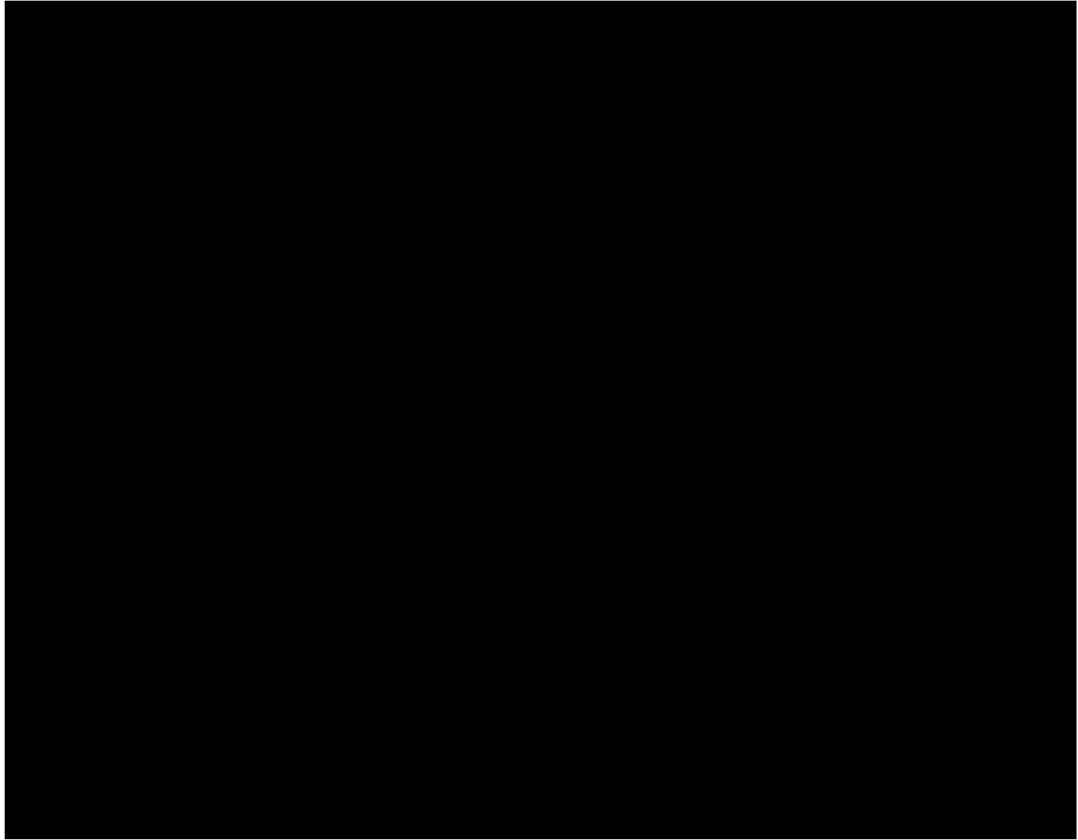


Figure 1: Advertisement of Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium in Honolulu-Advertiser newspaper from August 24, 1927.

## CHAPTER 1 CASE STUDY: WAIKĪKĪ WAR MEMORIAL NATATORIUM

### Motivation

Part of my journey in creating this thesis was selecting a site I deemed significant under historic preservation. My mentors suggested several sites and I began to research each one to see what would pique my interest. The Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium was the most intriguing because it is significant in Hawai'i's history, but was strangely forgotten.

I remember a day when I was walking through Waikiki with some friends and noticed the War Memorial, but it never crossed my mind that it had historical value. At the time, I didn't know the Memorial Natatorium was closed; regardless, I didn't think anything of it until I began research for my thesis.

I found the site's fate is the subject of a debate over demolition versus preservation. Many organizations — Friends of the Natatorium, National Trust of Historic Places, Historic Hawai'i Foundation and others — came together to save the Memorial Natatorium, which is undergoing a preservation concept that would convert the stagnant water into clean saltwater.

My goal is to promote deeper meaning of the Memorial Natatorium's place in Hawai'i's history, ensuring its preservation and keeping the site relevant to future generations. I hope to accomplish this goal through an emphasis on Hawai'i's role in World War I and how commemoration can spark an emotional vibe to make visitors appreciate the memorial's significance. Restoring the Memorial Natatorium will again pay the tribute intended when the site was conceptualized and constructed. Once restoration is complete, revitalization is necessary for the site to continue functioning as both a memorial and a place of activity.

## Thesis Statement

The significance of war memorials is often lost as society changes over time. Once lost, indifference can follow, which leads to the decay of once prominent monuments. Preservation of war memorials needs to be addressed to protect the original intent behind their construction and continue to commemorate those who lost their lives during war. The Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium is in bad repair because of neglect and maintenance issues. There are proposals to combat this problem by modifying the Memorial Natatorium to solve the seawater quality standards. Conversely, several proposals seek to demolish part of or the entire site, replacing it with a new functional space.

Although the Memorial Natatorium was once important, most of the community is no longer aware of its significance in Hawai'i's culture and history. In order to restore that significance, the Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium should be restored and revitalized in a way that provides deeper insight into a mostly forgotten part of Hawaiian history. In addition to commemorating those from Hawai'i lost in World War I, remembering the role the Memorial Natatorium played in the popularization of swimming in the islands is another reason it should be preserved.

## Hypothesis

An innovative design approach in restoring, revitalizing, and preserving the Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium can achieve its original significance as a “living memorial”, carrying on a legacy of commemoration for generations to remember while functioning as a space for activities aimed at locals and tourists alike.

## Purpose of Study

The purpose of this research is to present the importance of preserving the Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium as an iconic site commemorating the historical value of Hawai'i's people during World War I through revitalization as an educational, economical, and social experience. Furthermore, its double feature—commemorating the fallen and being a gathering space—gives glory to the rise of indigenous swimming.



## Goals and Objectives

The primary objective of this research is to promote revitalization and preservation of the Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium as a consequence to the loss of cultural and historical value the Memorial Natatorium symbolizes because of negligence and ignorance.

To achieve this objective, smaller goals must be set to obtain this achievement:

- Educate current and future generations on the importance of war memorials, specifically in World War I
- Create public awareness on the cultural significance of the Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium
- Integrate a cultural aspect that can promote revitalization and restoration

## CHAPTER 2 BACKGROUND

### Hawai'i's Involvement in World War I

In the summer of 1914, news of war surged upon the world creating fear in Hawai'i. The then U.S. territory began to feel the effects of war on her economic condition: rising sugar prices benefiting local businesses yet creating a disturbance amongst trading countries.<sup>4</sup>

With war waging between Germany and Belgium, 'Hawai'i's Golden Opportunity' cried out in the *Star-Bulletin* on August 15, 1914, advertising a one-time chance for the Hawaiian Islands to take advantage of the rising European traffic in the Pacific for profit on social and economic growth.<sup>5</sup> Since most tourists entering Hawai'i were to be victims affected by the war, funds were necessary to create a campaign that would care for the suffering. This campaign came to be known as the War Relief Committee, providing services, assistance, and contribution to everyone regardless of "nationality or connection with warring countries."<sup>6</sup> Hawai'i felt it was necessary and committed to involve her people in helping those cope with the loss of their loved ones during the war.

In 1917, the War Relief Committee became a chapter under the American National Red Cross, receiving donations and funds to support the organization in helping those suffering from the war.<sup>7</sup> The organization went through reformation several times to better accommodate services and work carried out. After these modifications, additional committees and organizations were created to break down specific work challenges the War Relief Committee couldn't handle.

After the war ended, special relief funds, war loans, and war saving stamps were created to receive some type of funding and support by Hawai'i's people. The territory believed it was necessary in all her power to make those, who suffered through war, as comfortable as possible upon arriving the Hawaiian Islands. 'Hawai'i's Golden

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<sup>4</sup> Kuykendall, Ralph S., *Hawaii in the World War* (Hawaii: Honolulu Star-Bulletin, 1928) 1.

<sup>5</sup> Kuykendall, Ralph S., *Hawaii in the World War* (Hawaii: Honolulu Star-Bulletin, 1928) 91.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., 119.

Opportunity' continued to boom her economic conditions, establishing better opportunities for the men and women of Hawai'i to find jobs and make a living.

### Military in Hawai'i

Before the Great War and even "before there was a 'Pearl Harbor', there was an American Navy, and long before there was an American Navy, there was a lagoon called, *Pu'uloa* or *Waimomi*,"<sup>8</sup> which we know today as Pearl Harbor.

On December 3, 1794, several ships set anchor near the harbor. This was the first recorded event of American naval force encountering the people of Hawai'i.<sup>9</sup> There was still a debate within the nation if continuing a naval militia was necessary.

In October 1914, Governor Lucius E. Pinkham received letters from the Secretary of the Navy recommending the organization of a Naval Militia in Hawai'i.<sup>10</sup> These letters stated that it was of an important necessity to create a naval militia in Hawai'i.

Organization was formally [in effect] in January 1916, with training beginning in September in a 15-day cruise on board the

U.S.S. *St. Louis*.<sup>11</sup> The National Guard of Hawai'i had an increased number of officers and enlisted men, becoming a powerful organized force prepared to attack under the command of the United States.

Amongst the enlisted men, Hawaiian, Filipino, Portuguese, Anglo-Saxon, and Japanese were involved in the National Guard, changing policy in National Guard affairs and reorganization of separate companies within the islands of Hawai'i.<sup>12</sup> This strengthened the United States warfare connections on the Pacific Ocean. As the outbreak of the war in 1914 continued, the need for a trained officers' reserve to be available in time of emergency was called to the attention by the Americans.<sup>13</sup> The College of Hawai'i was given a land grant and expected to give military training to students of the

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<sup>8</sup> Landauer, Lyndall & Landauer Donald, *Pearl: The History of the United States Navy in Pearl Harbor* (California: Flying Cloud Press, 1999), 23.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, 27.

<sup>10</sup> Kuykendall, Ralph S., *Hawaii in the World War* (Hawaii: Honolulu Star-Bulletin, 1928) 21.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, 34.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, 73.

collegiate year 1918-1919.<sup>14</sup> Revision of the curriculum and incentives were made to increase the number of male students enlisting or being drafted to join the Students' Army Training Corps.<sup>15</sup> Soon, the number of young males enrolling increased, and thus the beginning of the R.O.T.C. in Hawai'i was established.

After the United States entered the war, the British recruiting commission began a phase being an agreement between the two countries to allow enlisting of British residents in the United States to be part of the British forces.<sup>16</sup>

Even before the United States entered war, many young men of Hawai'i had enlisted into the army or navy.<sup>17</sup>

### Creating a Memorial

As a result of war, 101 Hawaiian boys were lost. Early in March 1918, the Daughters and Sons of Hawaiian Warriors proposed a monument design of a shaft made of Hawaiian lava stone with polished sides carved with the names of those they lost during the Great War.<sup>18</sup> The huge news spread quickly within the Hawaiian Islands—*Honolulu Star-Bulletin* became the voice of the community, expressing that a simple monument should be made to commemorate the lives lost during the Great War.<sup>19</sup> Colonel Howard Hathaway was appointed as chairman of a general committee to begin work on a war memorial. Subcommittees were created, and several individuals were appointed to come up with the design and provide cost estimates to move the project forward.

There were two types of memorials proposed: 1) a monument, to consist of a statuary group alone or of a statuary group with a fountain. 2) a memorial building, to contain an audience and other features of a practical character as well as places for war

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<sup>14</sup> Kuykendall, Ralph S., *Hawaii in the World War* (Hawaii: Honolulu Star-Bulletin, 1928) 79.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid., 82.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid., 83.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid., 447.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

relics, memorial tablets, and possibly also a statuary group.<sup>20</sup> Most were in favor of a memorial building, leading to further discussion on a site location and funds.

Earlier preference on the site for the memorial to sit on was along Punchbowl street, but a subcommittee discovered the Irwin Property at Waikīkī for an amount of \$200,000. A bill known as the “Victory Fund”<sup>21</sup> was created and passed, allowing the purchase to follow through.

After the site purchase, a new committee was organized, the Territorial War Memorial Commission, whose job was to make arrangements to set up an architectural competition for the design of a memorial. The memorial was to be constructed under the supervision of the superintendent of public works, while employing and directing the winning architect to give detailed plans and specifications.<sup>22</sup>

This bill was immediately passed by the two branches of the legislature and approved by the governor on March 15, 1921.<sup>23</sup>

The competition was arranged under the general rules of the American Institute of Architects... seven cash prizes were offered: \$1,000 for three, and \$500 for four.<sup>24</sup> The cash prizes are intriguing, considering that the amount no matter what place your design proposal comes in, is of equal value to someone above and below your entry.

The jury was made up of the governor of Hawai’i, the mayor of Honolulu, and three architects of five selected by the commission. The competition closed on June 20, 1922 with Lewis P. Hobart of San Francisco as the first prize winner. The judges commended the winning design by stating:

“It reveals a fine, discriminating taste and ability in architectural design, and in such a landscape treatment as reflects the highly individual color and flavor of Hawai’i and Honolulu; to forecasts a memorial which will sustain an appropriate interest into the distant future, and perpetuate the noble thought and purpose which animated the original conception of the project.”<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> Kuykendall, Ralph S., *Hawaii in the World War* (Hawaii: Honolulu Star-Bulletin, 1928) 448.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., 451.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid., 452.

<sup>25</sup> Ibid.

Hobart was an American architect born on January 14, 1873 in Saint Louis, Missouri, and died on October 19, 1954 in his residence in San Francisco, California, at the age of 81.<sup>26</sup> He received his bachelor's and master's degree from the University of California, Berkeley. Hobart was a member of the American Academy in Rome, Italy and the Society of Beaux-Arts Architects. He obtained his license in California and was one of many other architects who played a role in rebuilding the San Francisco Bay Area after the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.<sup>27</sup> Some of his famous work include San Francisco's Grace Cathedral, the 511 Federal Building in Portland, Oregon, and the Postal Telegraph Building on 22 Battery Street, San Francisco, California.

After all preparations of drawings and specifications were complete, invitation of bids officially opened on September 10, 1923.<sup>28</sup> None were received because contractors were discouraged by the plans and cost. It was too much work for the money offer. Not long after, a new bill was passed to make the necessary changes and Hobart was asked to modify the plans for the natatorium. Bids opened once again on August 21, 1926, but still failed to receive a bid from any contractor.<sup>29</sup>

Plans were revised once more in early 1927, and the contract was awarded to J. L. Cliff and the natatorium will be finished at a cost of approximately \$218,000.<sup>30</sup> An incentive to complete the project was placed in the contract to host the men's national outdoor swimming championship meet to be held in Honolulu in August 1927.<sup>31</sup> Construction was not quite near completion, but it was sufficient enough to utilize during the swimming meet opening.

On opening day, the [Memorial] Natatorium was not finalized according to the entire contract, but it was sufficient for utilizing the pool.<sup>32</sup> It is unclear on what remained unfinished, but the safety of swimmers and spectators were not at risk. A program was

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<sup>26</sup> Pacific Coast Architecture Database (PCAD), "Lewis Parsons Hobart (Architect)," Alan Michelson, <http://pcad.lib.washington.edu/person/1141/> (accessed October 3, 2017).

<sup>27</sup> Wikipedia, "Lewis P. Hobart," [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lewis\\_P.\\_Hobart#cite\\_note-nris-3](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lewis_P._Hobart#cite_note-nris-3) (accessed 13 October 2017).

<sup>28</sup> Kuykendall, Ralph S., *Hawaii in the World War* (Hawaii: Honolulu Star-Bulletin, 1928) 452.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid., 453.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid.

<sup>32</sup> Ibid.

arranged dedicating tribute to those who lost their lives in the war, a band played selected music, Governor Wallace R. Farrington spoke a few words, and the famous Hawaiian swimmer, Duke Kahanamoku, gave a 100-meter freestyle exhibition swim for the audience.<sup>33</sup> It was a great day for the people of Hawai'i to experience a phenomenal moment in time celebrating the commemoration of servicemen who fought in the Great War while watching competitive swimming as the sun began to set.

#### Current Condition of the Natatorium

The Memorial Natatorium sits on the shoreline of Kaimana Beach surrounded by vast green space. Its structure is made of reinforced concrete and contains a 100-meter x 40-meter Olympic swimming pool. The pool is surrounded on all four sides by a twenty-foot wide deck and three of those sides are surrounded by ocean water protected by a three-foot high wall. The *mauka* (mountain) side has concrete bleachers rising thirteen levels in height and is estimated to seat 2,500 spectators.<sup>34</sup>

The main entrance is an archway of the Beaux-Arts style and is the main architectural feature of the Memorial Natatorium. Flanked by two lesser round arches, a pair of Ionic pilasters support the triumphal arch's entablature inscribed with the words 'The War Memorial' in its frieze. At the top of the entablature is a central piece with the Hawaiian motto and seal. On each side, an American eagle is perched.<sup>35</sup>

On either side of the main entrance, concrete bleachers stretch approximately 100 feet. Locker rooms sit below the bleachers, inset for privacy behind centered round arched arcades of seven bays each. The bays contain office and restroom spaces on each side distinguished by rectangular windows with grills.<sup>36</sup>

In front of the Memorial Natatorium lies an expansive lawn with various vegetation. On one side, a volleyball and basketball court can be found; the other, a

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<sup>33</sup> Kuykendall, Ralph S., *Hawaii in the World War* (Hawaii: Honolulu Star-Bulletin, 1928) 453.

<sup>34</sup> U.S. Department of the Interior. National Park Service. National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form: *War Memorial Natatorium* (August 1980), by Don Hibbard and Gary Cummins. Hawaii, 1979.

<sup>35</sup> Ibid.

<sup>36</sup> Ibid.

parking lot. Across the lawn sits a plaque listing the men who died in service of the U.S. and British forces as an additional recognition of honor during the Great War.

No additions have been made since its closure. The only alterations have been the removal of a free-standing clock, the diving platform from the deck area, and the removal of several light fixtures.<sup>37</sup>

### Memorial Natatorium at Its Peak

On August 24, 1927, the Natatorium officially opened as the first “living” war memorial in the United States. After the ceremony and a freestyle exhibition swim by Kahanamoku, the annual National Outdoor Swimming Championships began. The best swimmers of the United States, Japan, and Hawai’i have come together to claim victories. Honolulu Advertiser writes in a column:

“One of the greatest tournaments of aquatic sports, the national outdoor swimming championships, is now under way at Memorial pool in Honolulu. Men and women of national and international renown are competing. Whether old records will be broken and new records will be established remains to be seen, but the event itself measures up fully to that of its predecessors in world-wide interest. Because of that fact, Honolulu is once more in the limelight.”<sup>38</sup>

This was an extraordinary moment for both the Memorial Natatorium and Hawai’i, being the host of such a big event and becoming a popular sight internationally. The Natatorium’s heyday lasted only a short period of time, from its grand opening day in 1927 through the World War II years. The cause of war is a possibility that the Memorial Natatorium began to lose its significance, especially since the attack on Pearl Harbor devastated the Hawaiian Islands. Furthermore, its possession was carelessly tossed around by all who were tasked to manage it. This led to neglect and deterioration developing for over 70 years.

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<sup>37</sup> U.S. Department of the Interior. National Park Service. National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form: *War Memorial Natatorium* (August 1980), by Don Hibbard and Gary Cummins. Hawaii, 1979.

<sup>38</sup> Honolulu Advertiser. “National Swimming Meet”. 24 August 1927.



But there is a lot of history the swimming pool carries, which makes it significant to Hawai'i. The Memorial Natatorium was a place of gathering. Duke Kahanamoku and a number of famous swimmers, Johnny Weismuller, Clarence "Buster" Crabbe, Norman Ross, Pua Kealoha to name a few, swam in the basin's waters for Olympic games and swimming competitions. In promoting the sport of swimming, lessons were given to adults and children alike, where judgment on your skill level was disregarded. Field trips to the Natatorium was a popular activity to educate students and encouraged them to learn how to swim. With its location, the Natatorium was an experience for hosting ceremonies and celebrations of all kinds. Restoring the Memorial Natatorium to its original state will bring back those heyday memories and live on through Hawai'i's current and future generations.

The Memorial Natatorium brought people together. Their race, skin color, origin, gender, age and other demographics did not matter when gathered to enjoy the art of swimming, the sunset along the horizon and other outdoor activities. It was a space for people to gather without being judged. Additionally, it created value in socializing within the shorelines of Waikīkī and beamed the sport of swimming, an unknown cultural aspect of Hawai'i that made her people recognizable as being equals amongst great nations, especially during the Olympics after the 1920s. It could be stated that without the Memorial Natatorium, people outside Hawai'i may not have had the opportunity to travel to the islands and see what is to offer. The heyday of the Memorial Natatorium made Hawai'i much more luxurious after the Great War and can continue to do so once restored.

## Current State of Natatorium



Figure 2: Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium condition during its heyday.

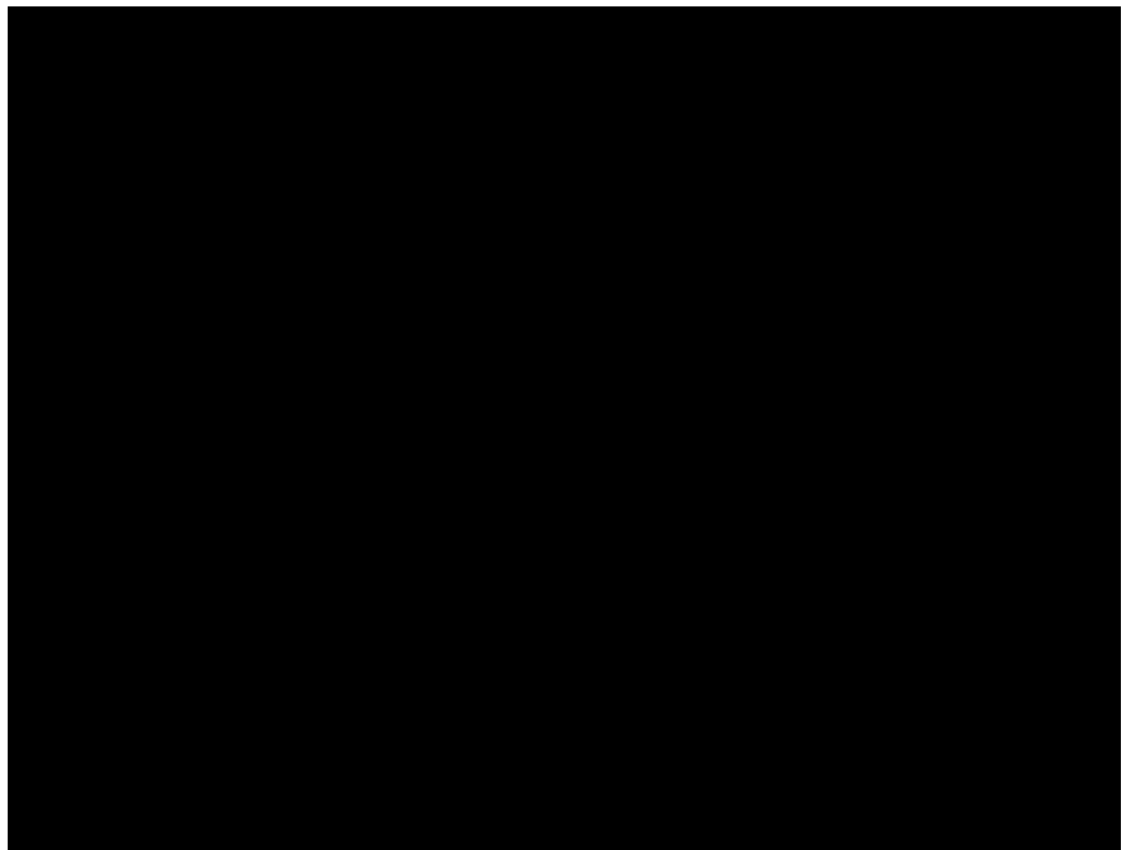


Figure 3: Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium condition after public closure.

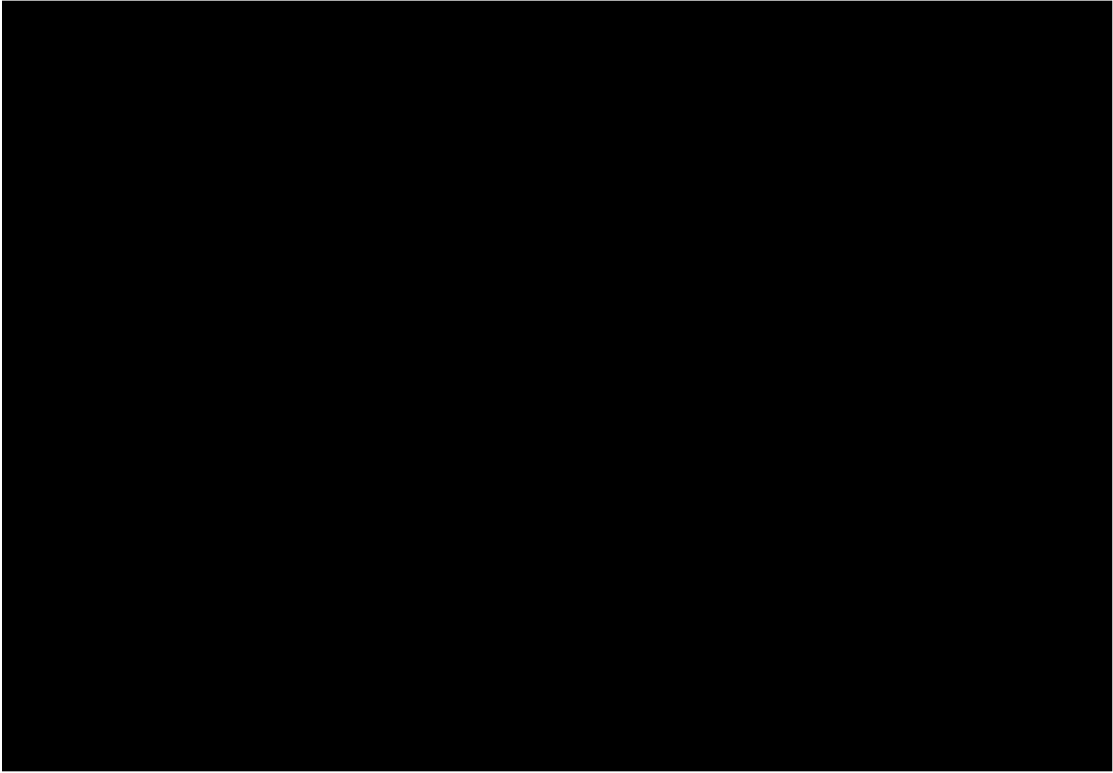


Figure 4: Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium condition in deterioration and additional functions in present time.

## Alternative Proposals

With continued deterioration during and after its closure, the Natatorium became a safety hazard to the public and something had to be done. The growth of deterioration Political and social interest suggested a complete removal and replacement of the Natatorium, but other interest groups argued in favor of saving this historical piece of work. Careful consideration and analysis have been completed to provide a solution in maintaining and keeping the Natatorium.

### Alternative Scheme 1: Landscape Peninsula Designer: CJS Group Architects, Ltd.

Date: March 1985

The concept of this scheme is to completely remove the Natatorium and convert it into a landscaped peninsula that becomes an extension of Kapiolani Park.<sup>39</sup>

Problems: Acute exposure of landscape material to constant ocean salt spray and “over-topping” of the perimeter seawall. Upward leaching movement of salt water caused by capillary action of soil, resulting in heavy salt buildup affecting plant material.<sup>40</sup>

Solutions: Walkways and promenades provide a buffer around perimeter to reduce salt water splashing. Landfill beneath planted areas are to be raised as high as +6.5 feet, or approximately six inches below the height of existing seawall. Landscape fill area should be watered at above- normal rates to counteract leaching process.<sup>41</sup>

Why is this a failure? This concept is inadequate in saving the Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium because it removes half of the significance the memorial stands for. If you are going to preserve something, you must consider preserving the entire site. Preservation of keeping specific parts of a place will only give people a misunderstanding on a historical site’s significance and question the decisions made to the end result. If saving specific parts is detrimental to its surrounding environment or to its users, then this solution would be impervious.

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<sup>39</sup> CJS Group Architects, Ltd., *Summary to the Final Preliminary Planning Report: Waikiki War Memorial Park and Natatorium*. (CJS Group Architects, Ltd., 1985) 13.

<sup>40</sup> Ibid.

<sup>41</sup> Ibid.



Figure 5: Conceptual site plan proposal of Memorial Natatorium as having a landscape peninsula.

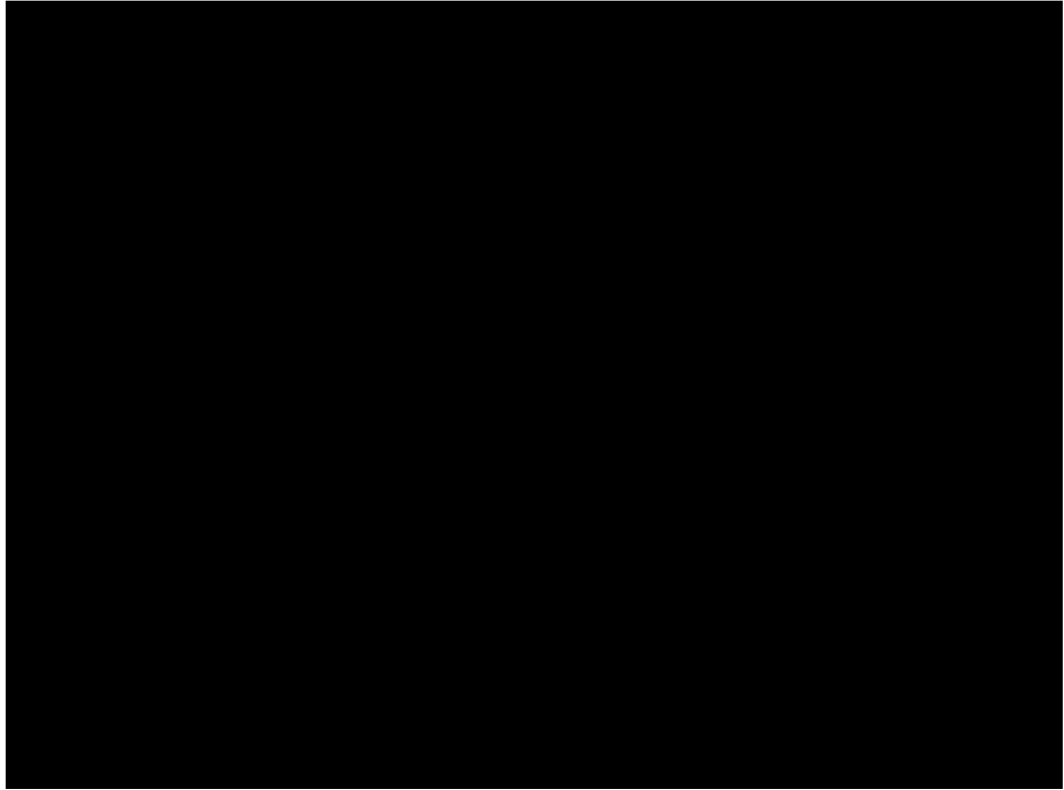


Figure 6: Conceptual section and elevation drawing of Memorial Natatorium as having a landscape peninsula.

Alternative Scheme 2: Beach Restoration Designer: CJS Group Architects, Ltd.

Date: March 1985

This scheme proposes the relocation of the memorial arch placed on a new beach.<sup>42</sup>

Problem: Natatorium is completely hazardous and sand erosion is inevitable.

Solution: Complete removal of all elements except central memorial arch and sea wall on Sans Souci Beach side. New sand beach to replace Natatorium with new observation deck to access swimming area.<sup>43</sup>

Why is this a failure? Again, the removal of any or all parts of the Memorial Natatorium will cause a major loss of the entire site. Removal of the Natatorium will close off adjacent beaches, causing protests by beach users. This is a risk on tourism for Hawai'i's economic conditions and should be avoided at all costs.

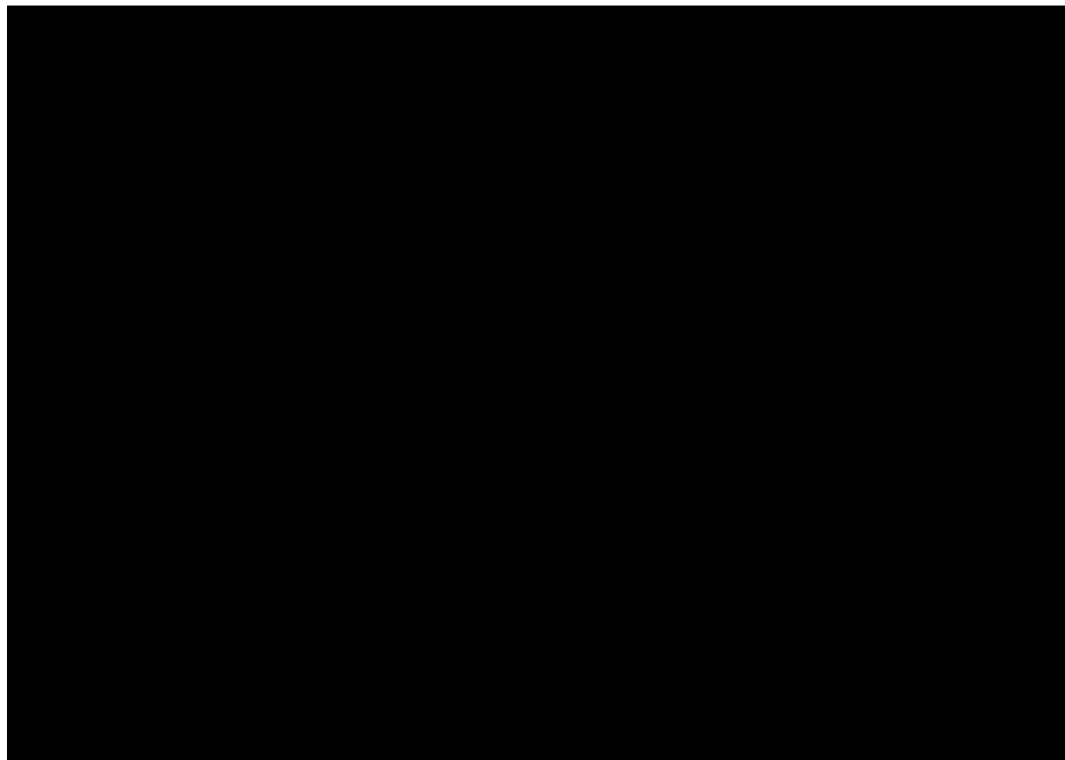


Figure 7: Conceptual site plan proposal of Memorial Natatorium as a beach restoration.

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<sup>42</sup> CJS Group Architects, Ltd., *Summary to the Final Preliminary Planning Report: Waikiki War Memorial Park and Natatorium*. (CJS Group Architects, Ltd., 1985) 15.

<sup>43</sup> Ibid.

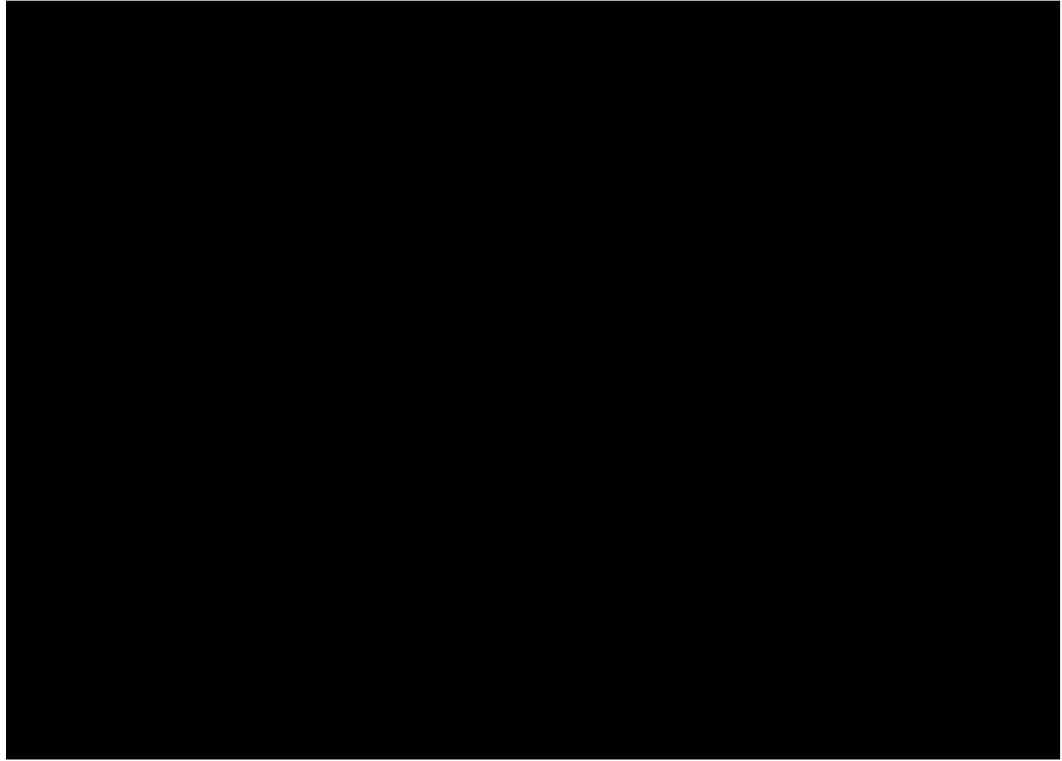


Figure 8: Conceptual section and elevation drawing of Memorial Natatorium as a beach restoration.



## Conceptual Design 4

Designer: Sea Engineering, Inc. Date: July 2008

This design is composed of four structures—an L-groin, a straight groin, and two detached breakwaters—restricting wave energy entering the Natatorium. Additionally, it requires significant expansion of structure footprint out onto the reef.<sup>44</sup>

Problem: Shoreline restoration is necessary because of deterioration of Natatorium.

Solution: Provide recreational beach and swimming area as replacement of Natatorium while avoiding conflict with the popular and heavily used Sans Souci Beach.<sup>45</sup>

Why is it a failure? This idea could work, but the cost is extremely high. There could be an alternate solution that can be done to solve this issue.

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<sup>44</sup> Sea Engineering, Inc. *Waikiki Beach War Memorial Natatorium: Shoreline Restoration Study Conceptual Design Review Report*. (Hawaii: Sea Engineering, Inc., 2008) 58-63.

<sup>45</sup> *Ibid.*, 63.



Figure 9: Conceptual design proposal and cost estimate of Memorial Natatorium as an open swimming area and beach.

## Conceptual Design Proposal

Designer: Dr. Hans Krock, President of Krock Design Associates LLC Date: October 2016

This concept suggests opening the seawall to users to recreate in clean ocean water. It addresses longstanding concerns with the aged facility, including: water quality, public safety, environmental protection; and cost for building operations.<sup>46</sup>

Problem: The Natatorium is in severe condition of deterioration and was a health hazard causing its closure to the public. These hazards include poor water quality, public safety, environmental protection, and cost for building and operations.

Solution: Three key points are addressed in opening the seawalls: clean, clear, and simple. Clean uses a combination of wave energy and circulation through openings to allow clean water in the pool; clear uses inert material to create a shallow and deep end of the pool with repairs to the damaged part of the concrete decking; simple is the simplicity of the design makes it environmentally friendly at a low cost.<sup>47</sup>

Why is this a failure? This concept is similar to the previous design proposal but at a low-estimate cost. It may be a potential success because of the technology and tools that have developed over time. This proposal just passed a hearing and is currently being considered and assessed for further procedure.

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<sup>46</sup> Historic Hawai'i Foundation. Dr. Hans Krock: Swim Basin Rehabilitation Concept for Waikiki Natatorium War Memorial <https://historichawaii.org/2016/11/09/natatorium/>, accessed November 14, 2017.

<sup>47</sup> Ibid.

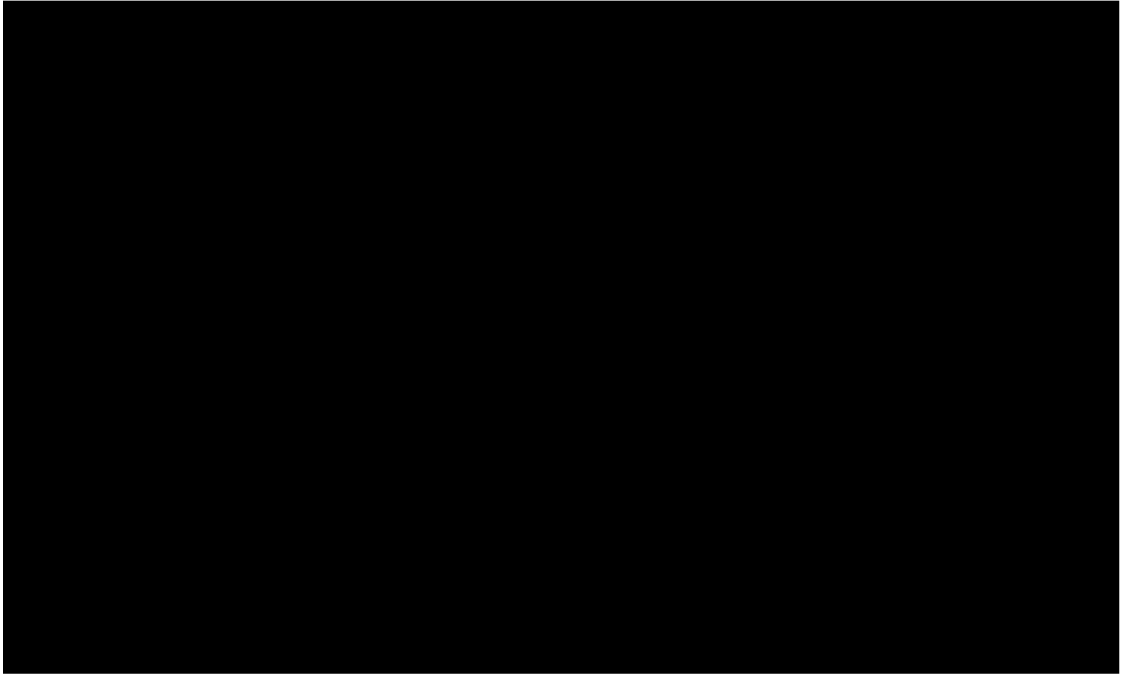


Figure 10: Conceptual design proposal of Memorial Natatorium showing major deterioration and poor condition.

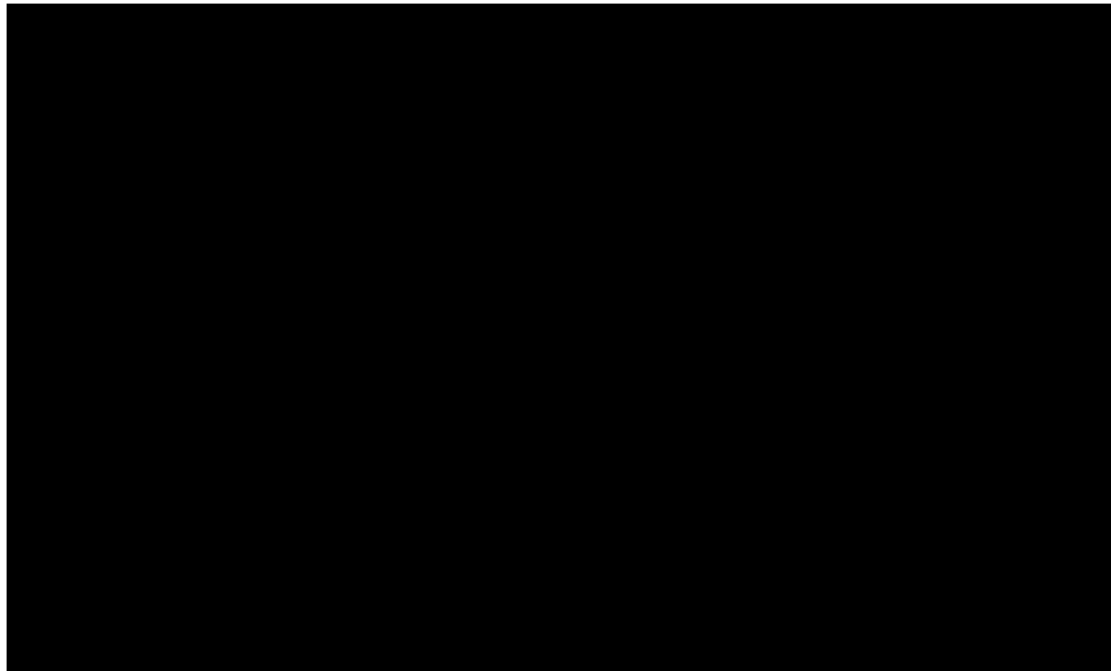


Figure 11: Conceptual design proposal of Memorial Natatorium as having open sea walls for clean water quality.

## CHAPTER 3 CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

### Literature Review

Having war memorials in a community not only honors those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country, it makes generations of people who visit aware of the impact war has had on society. It also creates perspective on the emotions created during and after the war. Two dissertation theses were selected, the first, “Appropriate Memorials: Creating and Maintaining Lasting Memorials of the First World War”, by Stephen Takacs, looks at traditions and practices for types of memorials, their significance, and what was appropriate for commemorating a community’s Great War dead. The second, “Looking to the Past, Looking to the Future: The Localization of Japanese Historic Preservation, 1950-1975”, by Peter David Siegenthaler, addresses the issue of preserving memorials, the methods used in continuing preservation of memorials, and the significance of these memorials.

The significance of a memorial should stand the test of time, but it requires the attention, involvement and cooperation of government and society that the memorial deserves. The Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium doesn’t have this action. It would be a shame if the Memorial Natatorium, which gave Hawai’i recognition as a U.S. territory for the people she lost during the Great War, continues to lose value until it eventually vanishes. Forgetting those who sacrificed their lives in service would be an insult to Hawaii’s history.

### Research Consensus

Memorials and monuments were built to honor the fallen and create an historical asset that would remind current and future generations of the tragedy that took place during those times. Value and memory are key factors that allow these structures to exist, but subsequent generations sometimes came to different conclusions than the original intent. What is deemed appropriate when it comes to the experiences allies and enemies have of the Great War? In “Appropriate Memorials: Creating and Maintaining Lasting Memorials of the First World War”, Stephen Takacs looks into traditions and practices of

numerous memorials from many countries by including at least one case study from a variety of countries.

First, looking into the significance of memorials will give an idea on why preserving them is essential to a community. The necessity of memorials leads to a common reason: to remember those who died and create a local site of remembrance.<sup>48</sup> Like many others, Hawai'i did just that. At the time, it was important to remember everyone because the feelings family and friends overcame after hearing about a lost loved one is devastating. None of these survivors want to forget loved ones who made the ultimate sacrifice in war, a scary event that affects people on different levels.

Since most WWI dead couldn't have their bodies returned, it was appropriate to make memorials that would remind civilians and communities of them, as to not forget that they have done their duty in defending their people and the motherland or fatherland they come from.

With the inclusion of so many on memorials, some asked whom not to include.<sup>49</sup> Many memorials created were to commemorate the loss of unknown soldiers and bodies of soldiers that could not return home. Other memorials added recognition to the supporters who were not in battle, such as nurses, doctors, suppliers, and civilians. It is important to recognize all who did their part because a war involves the participation of a community as a whole, not just the battlefield.

But not all memorials mourned losses; victorious nations celebrated gains, victory, allies, leaders, heroes, and promoted unity.<sup>50</sup> This is what the Memorial Natatorium does: honors the dead in a glorious way, taking pride that the service of the men and women makes them "heroes" and view their sacrifice as an act of dedication and pride for Hawai'i. It was a reminder that hardships can be overcome no matter the loss.

Takacs exclaims that the event of creating memorials for the dead made nations selective of what was appropriate for their own dead. A common way of selecting a memorial consisted of holding a competition.<sup>51</sup> The Memorial Natatorium was a design

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<sup>48</sup> Takacs, Stephen, "Appropriate Memorials: Creating and Maintaining Lasting Memorials of the First World War." (master's thesis, California State University, 20015), 22.

<sup>49</sup> Ibid., 36.

<sup>50</sup> Ibid., 44.

<sup>51</sup> Ibid., 61.

competition, which makes the discussion by the committees appropriate for what it is. In some way, it broke from traditional creations of memorials making it a unique approach in commemorating the Hawaiian dead. The Memorial Natatorium was not of a traditional memorial, instead was a utilitarian memorial. In fact, while traditional memorials aimed to preserve memory forever, the utilitarian offered immediate benefits to the community.<sup>52</sup>

Many discussion and arguments have come up stating traditional memorials were favored because memorials should only commemorate the dead. Utilitarian may make this commemoration “lost”, but most monuments are never really noticed. They become “invisible”, losing its purpose.<sup>53</sup> The Memorial Natatorium did end up becoming “invisible”, but this was due to its closure, which first occurred during World War II. Even after World War II, the U.S. Army took control over it for several years, then handed it over to the City and County of Honolulu, whom neglected and didn’t maintain the facility properly, closing the pool from public use.

Identifying types of memorials and what is appropriate for commemoration is organized based on the decisions of a community. Depending on the factors of loss or victory, pride or sorrow, allies or enemies, and others helped communities make decisions on what deemed appropriate to commemorate their fallen. These include monuments, structures, parks, cemeteries, buildings, and memorial books. While many of the prior designs preserved the memory of names, they did not preserve the memory of the men themselves.<sup>54</sup> The Memorial Natatorium lacks this significance piece. It took years for people to try and connect the dots with who was involved in war, whether on the battlefield or at home. Most names have been recognized and filed online or archived in some form of physical printing. Memorial books serve this very purpose by providing photographs and biographies,<sup>55</sup> but few would take the time to learn about each individual unless it was for a scholarly purpose. Focusing on the Roll of Honor in front of the Memorial Natatorium, if we identify each individual and create an integrated design

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<sup>52</sup> Takacs, Stephen, “Appropriate Memorials: Creating and Maintaining Lasting Memorials of the First World War.” (master’s thesis, California State University, 20015), 69.

<sup>53</sup> Ibid., 73.

<sup>54</sup> Ibid., 101.

<sup>55</sup> Ibid., 102.

to give a deeper commemoration it will give greater value and people would be more willing to preserve the memorial for the benefit of generations to come.

In addition, memorials provided a location for ceremonies, rituals, and other traditions to take place and develop a culture of remembrance.<sup>56</sup> By going to ceremonies and taking part in events, it shows respect and approval while building social bonding and solidarity in remembrance of the war and those who fell.<sup>57</sup> To this day, the Memorial Natatorium continues to hold ceremonies like Memorial Day, Veteran's Day, and others to honor veterans and servicemen. The ceremonies are held in front of the facade since the pool is closed. During its heyday, swimming competitions took place and became part of Hawai'i's tradition. The Memorial Natatorium serves its purpose and brought people together. Military ceremonies hosted in front of the façade continue to gather people without engaging with the closed pool. It is a shame to limit the celebration in part of the Memorial Natatorium and not the entire facility. If we don't preserve the Memorial Natatorium, these important moments will be lost, dishonoring the sacrifices our Hawaiian brothers and sisters made during the war.

Preservation isn't only about protecting originality; it can provide solutions to adapt or progress with change in a community. It can give more reasons to value a memorial. This idea is what can make the Memorial Natatorium live like it once did during its heyday. Revitalization, rehabilitation and restoration are significant approaches in historic preservation that will make a historical building or site have the same value it did at the time of creation. Takacs' literature provides direction on how the Memorial Natatorium can be reintegrated into Honolulu's urban fabric, keeping its significance while continuing to memorialize those sacrificed.

The second literature is "Looking to the Past, Looking to the Future: The Localization of Japanese Historic Preservation, 1950-1975" by Peter David Siegenthaler. This dissertation examines Japan's building and landscape conditions subsequent to World War II. His research questions focused on a time frame between 1950 and 1975,

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<sup>56</sup> Takacs, Stephen, "Appropriate Memorials: Creating and Maintaining Lasting Memorials of the First World War." (master's thesis, California State University, 20015), 140.

<sup>57</sup> Ibid., 151.



the important roles played by local governments and communities on historic preservation and programs implemented for preservation practice, and concerns on endangered Japanese monuments.<sup>58</sup> Partly in developing Japan's economy and quality of life, many efforts in practicing historic preservation were conducted by independent programs. These programs created a voice that brought dispute with the government on the approaches in preserving monuments they felt were undervalued or endangered.

Although the Memorial Natatorium is significant after World War I, its endangerment is due to negligence of the City and County of Honolulu and the local community. Several small programs and groups have come together to initiate an awareness and have fought battles against those who wish to destroy and remove the Memorial Natatorium. As it relates to the Memorial Natatorium, Siegenthaler focuses on two cities and a town: Takayama, Kanazawa, and Nagiso. He discovers that citizens and local governments collaboratively debated on projects and preservation processing to promote the significance of historical monuments. These monuments included houses, structures, landscapes, and historical sites symbolic of the postwar era.<sup>59</sup> Regardless of the success in preserving Japanese historical monuments, the decisions and processes were considered to be heavily controlled by politics. This is another issue that can lead to incorrect maintenance and preservation of historical monuments. Within the battles fought between supporters and non-supporters of the Memorial Natatorium, alternative solutions in preservation and maintenance have been proposed in order to save its existence. Siegenthaler's conclusion concurs preservation and protection on the existence and cultural value of endangered Japanese monuments through creation of programs that involve local communities to be inclusive of decision making. Innovation is key to persuading local communities to participate in preservation plans. Failure to do so by the government can lead to the destruction of an important piece of history for that community.

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<sup>58</sup> Siegenthaler, Peter, "Looking to the Past, Looking to the Future: The Localization of Japanese Historic Preservation, 1950-1975." (PhD diss., University of Texas, 2004) viii-ix.

<sup>59</sup> Siegenthaler, Peter, "Looking to the Past, Looking to the Future: The Localization of Japanese Historic Preservation, 1950-1975." (PhD diss., University of Texas, 2004), 271.

## Counterargument

It's true that the Memorial Natatorium is significant for the commemoration of Hawai'i's servicemen, but the issue is who is specifically being commemorated? In Brian Ireland's book, "The U.S. Military in Hawai'i: Colonialism, Memory and Resistance", Hawai'i's Great War dead are forgotten in history books.<sup>60</sup> Hawai'i's history is centered on World War II due to the attack on Pearl Harbor. Regardless of the impact, Hawai'i had a small role in the Great War and should still be recognized for efforts her people provided to service the military. The sole purpose of the creation of the Memorial Natatorium is to be a living memorial that honors WWI dead. Back to the question, who is specifically being commemorated? If you look at the Draft Selection in the Honolulu Advertiser and Honolulu Star-Bulletin newspapers, you will find the estimate is approximately 10,000 citizens. In addition, 101 names of the dead are inscribed on a plaque in front of the Memorial Natatorium. According to Ireland, "9800 of Hawai'i's citizens served in the U.S. Armed Forces after America's entry into World War I in 1917"<sup>61</sup> and the casualty figures on the plaque is incorrectly stating 101 deaths when the number is 102.

"102 died – 14 overseas during the war, 61 in Hawai'i or North America or after the armistice, and 27 in unknown circumstances. Twenty-two of the 102 recorded deaths occurred among Island residents serving with the British. Actual battle deaths of persons in the U.S. armed forces whose preservice residence was Hawai'i numbered six; seven others were wounded."<sup>62</sup>

The plaque gives incorrect information on the figures, which creates a problem of honesty in the significance of the War Memorial. This error may have been discovered after the Memorial Natatorium was built and questions the decisions made during the time of its creation.

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<sup>60</sup> Ireland, Brian, *The U.S. Military in Hawai'i: Colonialism, Memory and Resistance* (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2011) 83.

<sup>61</sup> Ireland, Brian, *The U.S. Military in Hawai'i: Colonialism, Memory and Resistance* (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2011) 44.

<sup>62</sup> Schmitt, Robert C., "Hawai'i's War Veterans and Battle Deaths." *Hawaiian Journal of History*, (1998): 172-3.

The Memorial Natatorium is designed in the Beaux-Arts architectural style, something “incompatible with its Pacific Island setting”<sup>63</sup> thus, proving that the Memorial was built to “further the ‘100% Americanism’ of Hawai’i.”<sup>64</sup> Ireland argues the Memorial Natatorium was a political statement that America is proving ownership over Hawai’i and that the original commemoration was just the surface of a deeper meaning. He questions the stories of the soldiers named on the plaque, analyzing if the memorial is relevant and the best solution for remembering their deaths.<sup>65</sup>

Looking into the origins, the memorial was proposed in March 1918 by the Sons and Daughters of Hawai’i, who suggested the design should be made of material from the Hawaiian Islands and to inscribe the names of all the island boys who served during the Great War. The appointed chair for the creation of this Great War memorial was Colonel Howard Hathaway and committee members were made up of mostly U.S. military servicemen. We already know how the memorial was created but there were earlier proposals that were sitting in the dark, never truly revealed in the history books.

The first design proposals were thought up by Roger Noble Burnham of and Avard Fairbanks of Salt Lake City, Utah. Burnham’s proposal suggested an erected monument or memorial hall close to the statue of King Kamehameha symbolizing Hawai’i’s contribution to Liberty. The monument would consist of three figures, the central figure representing Liberty, and a Hawaiian warrior and Hawaiian maiden on each side. The warrior would offer his spear while the maiden offers a lei with hands stretching towards Liberty. Burnham added that the statues would be surrounded on three sides by walls, one wall inscribing Hawai’i’s civilian population contributing to war in buying bonds and helping the Red Cross and the other two walls depicting military activities.<sup>66</sup> This proposal seemed like a good idea, but the cost came up to about \$750,000, which is \$500,000 more than the Memorial Natatorium’s construction cost excluding the Irwin Property purchase.

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<sup>63</sup> Schmitt, Robert C., “Hawai’i’s War Veterans and Battle Deaths.” *Hawaiian Journal of History*, (1998): 46.

<sup>64</sup> Ibid.

<sup>65</sup> Ibid.

<sup>66</sup> Ireland, Brian, *The U.S. Military in Hawai’i: Colonialism, Memory and Resistance* (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2011) 52.

The Irwin beach property at Waikīkī was formerly owned by William G. Irwin, who had built his home on the site before moving to San Francisco in 1913. He died the following year and his home was replaced by the construction of the Memorial Natatorium.

The proposal by Fairbanks suggested a fountain sitting at the entrance to the Capital with central figures representing Liberty being held by the Allied Nations. Surrounding the central fountain would be smaller fountains, the fountains of Knowledge, Faith, Life and Energy, symbolizing their combined strength to the development of the World.<sup>67</sup> The pool area will have groups of sculptures placed in such a way and will represent each island contributing their part in the Great War. Fairbanks advises that each island come up with their own sculpture design that would be replicated and kept on their island.<sup>68</sup>

Many have dismissed Fairbanks's idea because it was such a common type of monument that could be visualized almost anywhere else in the nation and didn't represent local involvement in the war.<sup>69</sup>

The conceptual designs proposed would have been appropriate to commemorate the Hawaiian soldiers, but a traditional memorial would sit in the same position of not receiving appreciation and being undervalued as many other traditional memorials around the world. The Memorial Natatorium may not express the Hawaiian culture through its style, but it brought people together to celebrate Hawaiian traditions of festivities, the sport of swimming, music, and respect for one another.

The next chapter will compare other case studies that have succeeded or failed as being a memorial or an ocean swimming pool. Criticism will be recognized to compare the significance and purpose each case study holds that gives it value to a place.

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<sup>67</sup> Ireland, Brian, *The U.S. Military in Hawai'i: Colonialism, Memory and Resistance* (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2011) 54.

<sup>68</sup> Ibid.

<sup>69</sup> Ibid.

## Approach

My thoughts on how I should approach this project breaks down necessary components that have valuable insight on what I should be looking for during my research leading into the design phase.

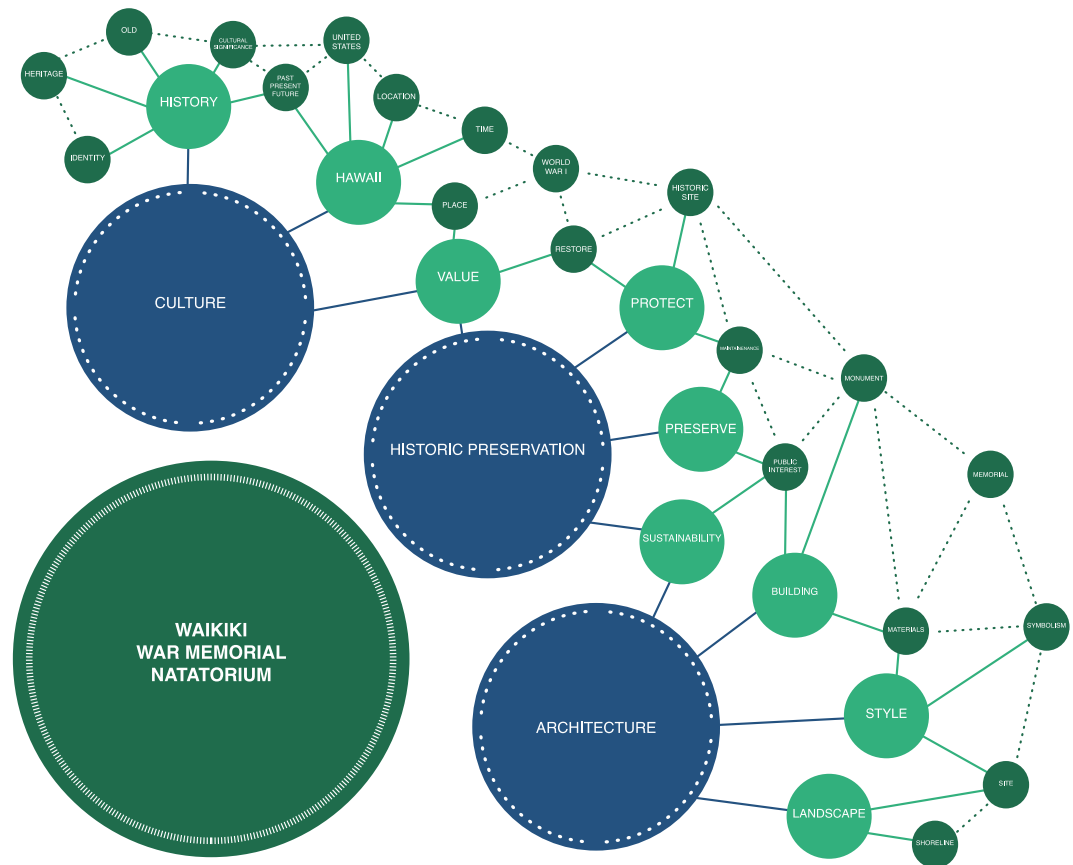


Figure 12: Conceptual mapping of approach for writing phase leading to design phase.

## CHAPTER 4 METHODOLOGY

### Plan of Research

This section explains the methodologies used during my thesis research process. The methodologies utilized include historical research, qualitative research: experts and archives, and case studies. These methodologies were the best fit for my thesis because the Memorial Natatorium already has bountiful resources provided in physical and digital printings, knowledge and expertise from professionals, and sufficient information on other buildings and sites having similar issues or better success.

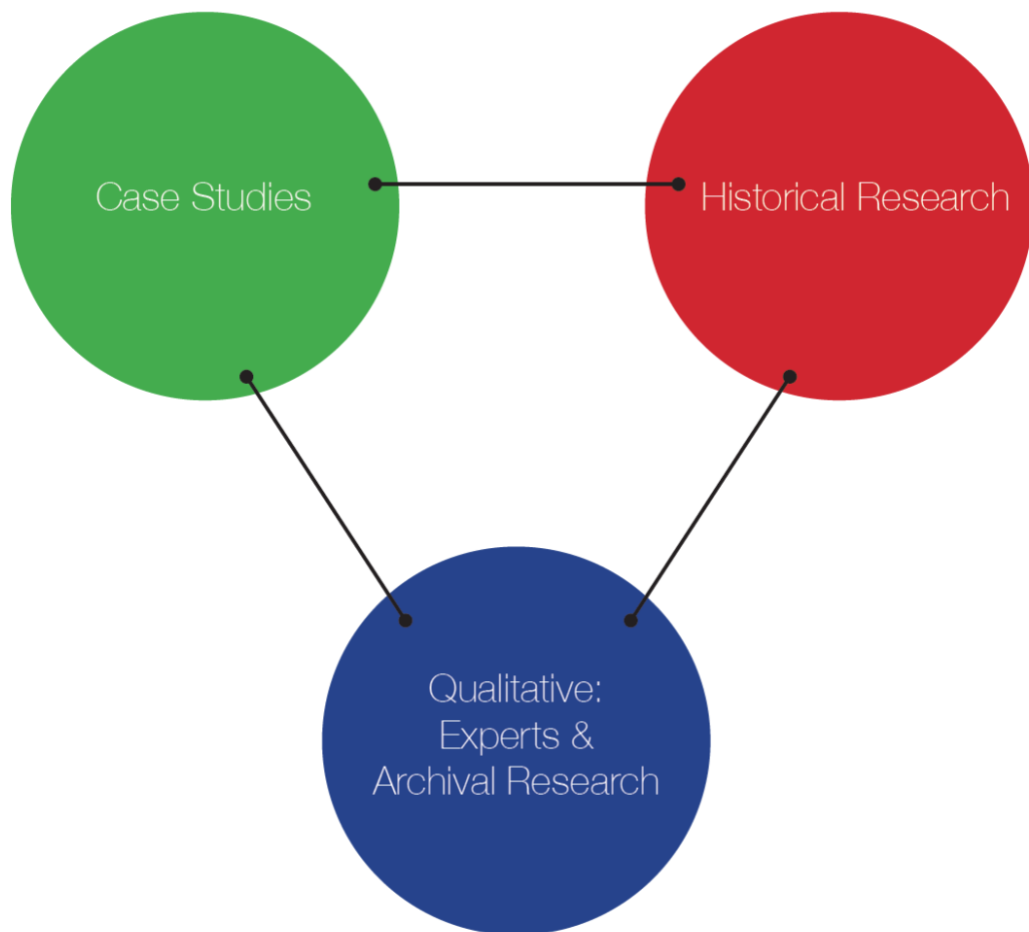


Figure 13: Methodology diagram.

## Work Plan & Schedule

The original plan for my dissertation proposal is to follow the time table (Table 1) I have provided to meet specific deadlines required for the dissertation. The table starts with Fall 2016 and ends in Spring 2018. The following paragraphs will explain the goals and expectations of each semester from start to finish.

The Fall 2016 work plan includes selecting a topic, creating ideas, problems, selection of site and the beginning of research. My objective was to finalize a first draft of my thesis proposal with all the requirements listed. The objective was successful in being completed. The thesis proposal follows the Spring 2017 semester in intense research.

For the Spring 2017 semester, I proposed to organize my research and tackle the methodologies suited for my thesis. The methodologies applicable include archival research, interviews and case studies. During my Praxis internship, determining the best fit people for my interviews and devising questions was top of the list. Unfortunately, this did not occur due to time constrictions — working full-time during Praxis made meeting up with people difficult. The next method according to the work plan was doing research. This method was the most successful during this semester because I planned my research findings during my free time. The research included books, articles, and other important documents that would support my thesis.

My last method was looking into case studies that addressed the issue of preservation and how the project succeeded or failed in keeping its original structure and function. The case studies I selected is documented in the Research Summary section of this proposal. Lastly, I was able to select individuals interested in partaking my committee. This part of my work plan was a success because I was able to follow my goals and objectives.

During the summer, my objectives were to finalize my case studies and have my interviews completed. In addition, I hoped to be involved in the observation and shadowing of a preservation project to understand the process and necessary and improve my writing on my proposal. Unfortunately, personal issues occurred, and my objectives were not met for this time frame.

The Fall 2017 semester plan should consist of intense writing of my thesis project. By this time, I should successfully have my research questions answered, my interviews

met, and my research and case studies complete. In this stage, I should begin the graphic articulation of my thesis proposal or have a conceptual design phase started. My committee and I will be meeting with others to support, critique, and finalize my thesis project.

Finally, in the Spring 2018 semester I should be finalizing my thesis project. The intense writing should be completed and only proofread where necessary and the design phase should begin and continue until the deadline of the dissertation hits.

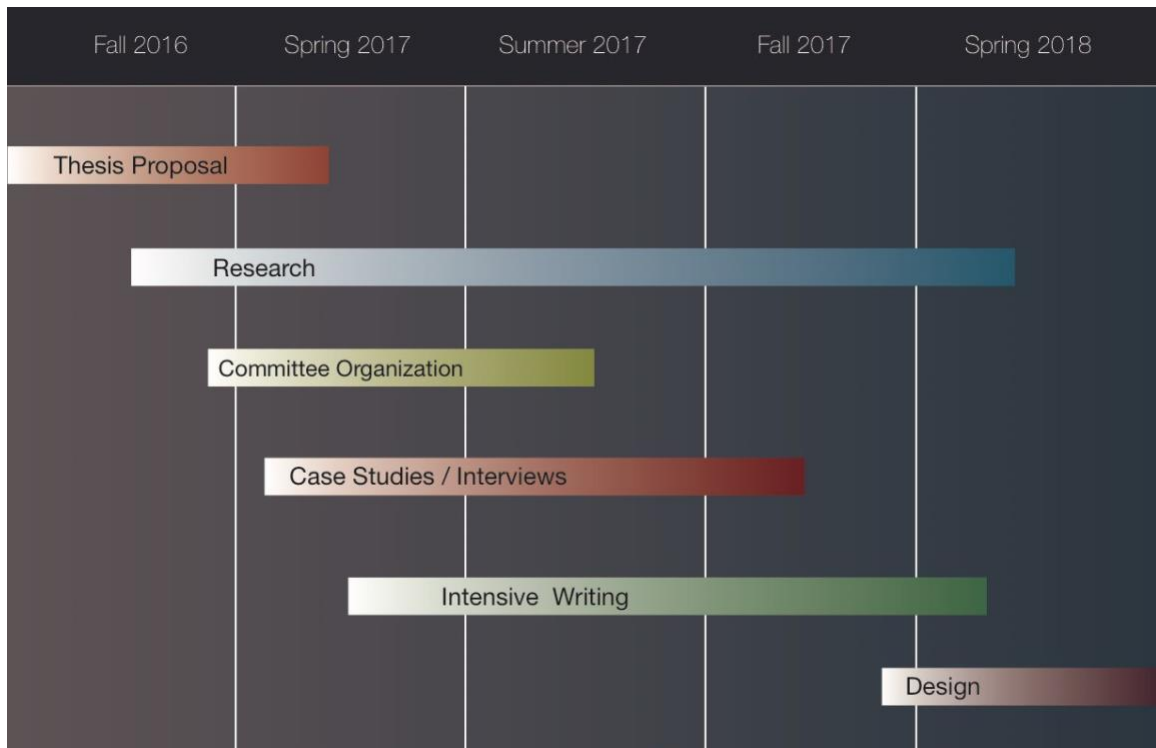


Table 1: Work plan & schedule for dissertation thesis process.

#### Materials and Equipment

- Books
- Newspaper Articles
- Government Documents
- Web Research
- Microfilm



## Collection of Data

During my research phase, I was able to find plentiful information through the selected methods. Each method will explain in greater detail what these findings were.

- Historical & Archival Research

Looking for historical documents, writings, articles, and others was an easy task, but very time consuming. The places that were most helpful in my findings include Hawai'i State Archive, Hamilton Library, Hamilton Hawaiian Studies, and online researching. I found government documents, drawings, letters, photographs, books and microfilms that have information inputted throughout my writing. My main sources came from newspaper articles from *Honolulu Advertiser* and *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* and the book *Hawai'i in the First World War* by Ralph Kuykendall. Finding information on the original documents were essential, but not necessary in supporting my thesis.

- Case Studies

The case studies selected are the Bondi Baths, Civil Rights Memorial, and USS Arizona Memorial. Each case study has specific components and key factors that resemble the Memorial Natatorium in their significance and how they carry it forward to the future. Part of this is looking at what has been done by their communities for upkeep and educating locals and nonlocals of their existence. An added factor is criticism on the comparison of the Memorial Natatorium versus the case studies. Without proper analysis, reasoning in keeping the Memorial Natatorium will drive towards failure.

- Experts

Professionals who have done their personal research on the Memorial Natatorium brings more perspective on what has been done and what could be done to solve the issue of preserving the pool. Their knowledge and expertise will be retrieved via telephone and meet ups if possible. Insight on what they believe can really provide a strong supposition my thesis needs for current events on the Memorial Natatorium.

## Analysis of Data

HISTORICAL RESEARCH	
PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Resources available in physical and digital print</li><li>• Brings to light things from the past</li><li>• Interpretation can be placed</li><li>• Can provide a narrative</li><li>• Cultural changes can be found</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Difficult to interpret a time you were not born into</li><li>• Certain turn of events or details may not be found</li><li>• There may not be enough evidence for something</li></ul>

Figure 14: Historical research pros and cons.

QUALITATIVE RESEARCH: EXPERTS	
PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• They have knowledge and expertise on the subject</li><li>• Their insight is of past, current, and future interpretation and ideas can lead to adjustment in process</li><li>• Interactive engagement</li><li>• Sensitivity to the topic</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Subjective responses may not clarify questions / concerns</li><li>• Credibility may not be rational to future paradigms</li></ul>

Figure 15: Expert research pros and cons.

CASE STUDIES	
PROS	CONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-depth analysis provides quality that will contribute to the research design</li> <li>• Connection to link cause and effect</li> <li>• Reinforce a point /points addressed in the research</li> <li>• Richness of multiple data sources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can be difficult to interpret specific components necessary for research</li> <li>• Integration of data to create coherent understanding</li> <li>• Minimal rules and procedures to conduct case studies</li> </ul>

Figure 16: Case studies research pros and cons.

## Research Summary

- Historical Research & Archival Research

The images below provide graphical information on the history of Hawai'i and her role during the Great War. In addition to Hawai'i's history, specifically within archival research, is the history of the Memorial Natatorium. These topics can be found under Chapter 2: Background.

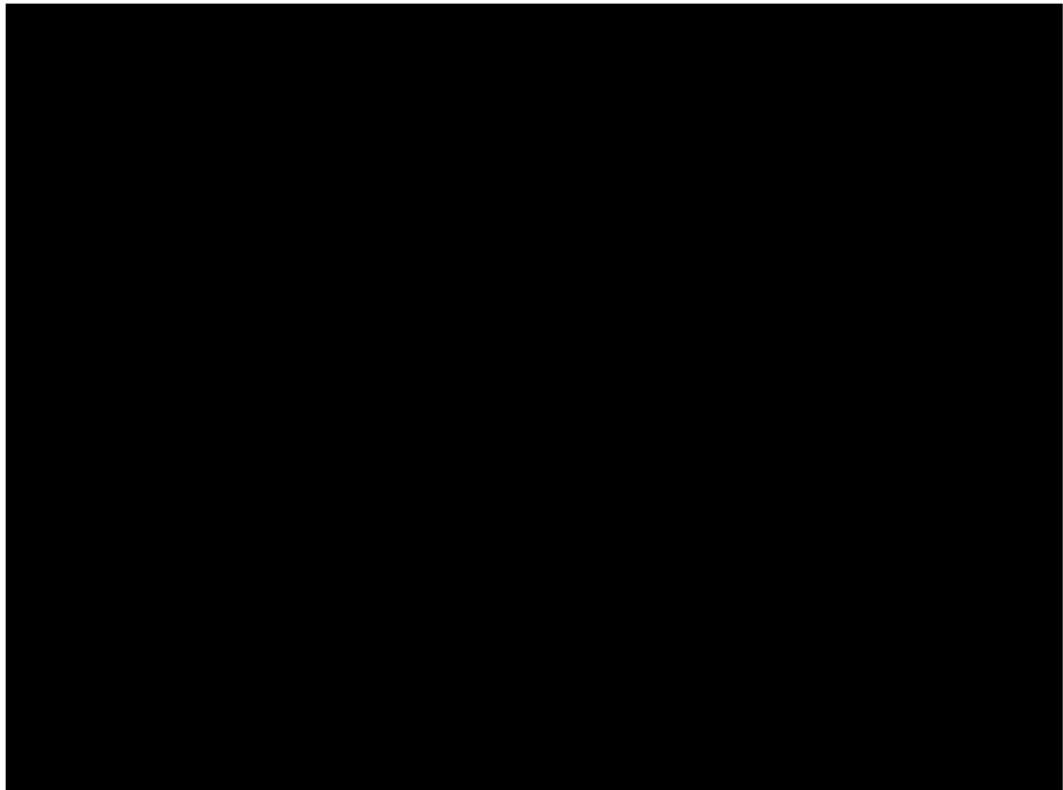


Figure 17: German sailors being taken to immigration station.



Figure 18: Celebrating the Victory—Armistice Day, November 11, 1918: Group of Rotarians in parade.

- Case Studies

This methodology considers two types of buildings: a natatorium and memorials. The purpose for these case studies is to analyze elements and components that make them successful or unsuccessful in their existence, significance, and purpose.

Bondi Baths, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia 1929

Bondi Icebergs Swimming Club

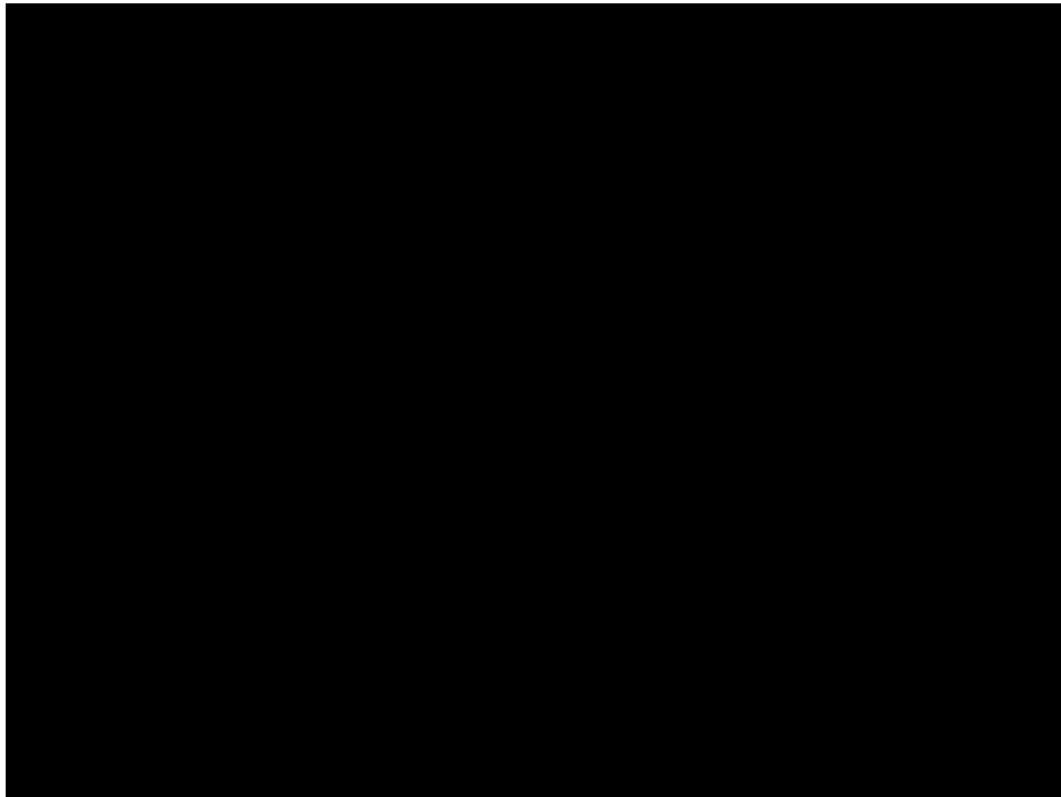


Figure 19: View of Bondi Baths facing southeast of Bondi Beach.

The Bondi Baths is an outdoor swimming pool located on the southern end of Bondi Beach. The Baths have been a historical landmark of Bondi Beach for over 100 years. It features two pools, a large lap pool and kid's pool, with certified lifeguards on duty. The pool is open almost every day for about 12 hours year-round.<sup>70</sup>

The Bondi Baths is just one of more than 30 salt water pools located in Sydney, Australia. There is an entrance fee for swimming in the pools that are being maintained once a week. It is unfortunate that the one salt water pool here in Hawai'i is neglected and deteriorating while Sydney alone is able to upkeep three times more pools. Although there are people fighting to keep the Memorial Natatorium, there doesn't seem to be enough efforts to create funding to keep the pool in good condition. The Memorial Natatorium does more than commemorate Great War dead. It is a facility that allows users to enjoy the sport of swimming and has been a place to hold ceremonies. Continuing this significance brings purpose and value for today and tomorrow's generations while remembering the past.

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<sup>70</sup> Bondi Iceberg Swimming Club, Bondi Baths. <https://icebergs.com.au/swimming-pool/pool-sauna/>, accessed November 26, 2017.



Civil Rights Memorial, Montgomery, Alabama Maya Lin

Figure 20: Civil Rights Memorial at entrance of Law Center in Montgomery, Alabama.

The Civil Rights Memorial by Maya Lin was to create an experience that would bring people to the beginning of history on the Civil Rights Movement. The design is comprised of a water table made of granite and accompanied by a 40' long by 10' high water wall. The stone table intertwines historical events of the civil rights era with the names of people who were killed fighting for these rights. One will be able to learn a brief history about the era and how a person's death is often directly related to changing the laws.<sup>71</sup>

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<sup>71</sup> Lin, Maya. <http://www.mayalin.com>, accessed October 24, 2017



The water wall bears an inscribed a quote by Martin Luther King, Jr. from the Book of Amos: “We are not satisfied and we will not be satisfied ‘until justice rolls down like water and righteousness like a mighty stream.’” This quote inspired the use of water in the piece and was an indication that the struggle for equality and racial justice is an ongoing one.<sup>72</sup>

The memorial is an open-ended structure in a limited space in front of the Law Center in Montgomery, Alabama. It is an elegant and intricate structure that conveys timelessness in fighting for racial equality. Lin uses water and the quoted words as a connection of the past and future.

The design of the Memorial brings people to understand what occurred during the Civil Rights Movement. An experience of intimacy in the struggle being fought. It’s a simple design with complexity but expresses the significance of that time period. As a comparison to the Memorial Natatorium, it truly has meaning and purpose in continuing to exist. Unfortunately, the Civil Rights Memorial is not necessarily monumental in proportions, so the Memorial Natatorium truly lacks the kind of intimacy and individual experience conveyed by the Memorial. The Memorial Natatorium needs this type of experience to be expressed. But how do we make this happen? What can be done to create individual experiences? Preserving the Memorial Natatorium is essential in continuing commemoration and rehabilitating the pool itself will bring back its functional value in Waikīkī. We cannot undo what has been done and undervalue the original intent of a memorial, but we can revitalize their commemoration in order to give them value for today and tomorrow’s generations.

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<sup>72</sup> Lin, Maya. <http://www.mayalin.com>, accessed October 24, 2017

U.S.S. Arizona Memorial, Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Hawai'i  
Alfred Preis



Figure 21: Entrance of U.S.S. Arizona Memorial.

The U.S.S. Arizona Memorial was designed by architect Alfred Preis, an Austrian citizen who fled the Nazis in 1939 and settled in Hawaii. It is a 184-footlong structure with two peaks at each end with a sag in the center of the structure. The peaks represent the pride, strength, and ultimate victory America encountered before and after the war while the sagging center symbolized the shortfall of the nation of the attack on December 7th. The entire structure provides an effect of serenity, allowing individuals to contemplate their personal feelings and responses of the memorial and the significance memories it carries.<sup>73</sup>

The Memorial is divided into three parts: entry hall, assembly room, and shrine. The central assembly room has seven large openings on either wall and through the

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<sup>73</sup> Modular 4, "Alfred Preis Architect, USS Arizona Memorial," Wordpress, accessed January 31, 2017.

ceiling, commemorating the date of the attack. The number of windows represents the 21-gun salute, a traditional custom military performance to honor above the tomb of the fallen sailors. An opening in the floor overlooking the sunken decks of the Arizona allows visitors to come and pay their respects by dropping flowers to honor the fallen sailors. The shrine is a marble wall that holds the names of all those killed on the U.S.S. Arizona.<sup>74</sup> The remnants of the ship are inaccessible and in replacement is a floating building designed as a memorial for commemorate the attack on Pearl Harbor and the men who died defending it. The building takes a small portion of the historical site and is only accessible by boat operated the U.S. Navy. According to the National Park Service website, the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial was dedicated on Memorial Day of 1962 and in 1989, the U.S.S. Arizona was designated a national historic landmark. Since 1980, the National Park Service has operated the Memorial and the Visit Center to ensure the preservation and interpretation of the tangible historical resources associated with the attack.<sup>75</sup> The fleet remains beneath the water, but the memories of the attack on Pearl Harbor are forever honored through the existence of the museum.

The Memorial resembles the Memorial Natatorium in commemorating the servicemen lost during a war. It is specifically a “live grave” because it still carries the bodies of sailors who sank down with the fleet. It truly gives off emotional sentiment for visitors because World War II directly involved the United States. Many veterans and families have come to visit the Memorial to honor their lost loved ones. The Memorial Natatorium is a memorial for Great War servicemen, so inevitably there are no veterans alive today. Generations of Great War veterans and servicemen are unable to give proper commemoration because of the Memorial Natatorium’s closure. Also, many are not aware that a memorial was created to honor their ancestors.

The significance of the Memorial holds strong today and should continue to be an educational and valuable experience for generations. But what value does it have when it comes to Hawai’i’s native people? Both memorials signify the same purpose, commemoration of the dead, but the Memorial Natatorium was specifically created to

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<sup>74</sup> Modular 4, “Alfred Preis Architect, USS Arizona Memorial,” Wordpress, accessed January 31, 2017.

<sup>75</sup> National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, “The History of Pearl Harbor,” Accessed January 29, 2017

honor Hawaiian men and women. Going back to Brian Ireland's criticism on the Memorial Natatorium, there is nothing that depicts Pacific architectural style or that it specifically commemorates native Hawaiians. The U.S.S. Arizona Memorial is truly a monumental structure in Hawai'i, but it too does not express Pacific architectural style. On top of the design, you cannot identify Hawaiian boys on the list of names in the Memorial. If there were any Hawaiian descendants, how many are there? The Memorial Natatorium represents men and women from Hawai'i in which most were of native descent.

With an increase of military and civilians arriving to Hawai'i to be stationed or reside, mixed races have taken over the native Hawaiian race and it would take quite some time to identify who were originally Hawaiian descent.

There is a purpose and sentimental value for creating a memorial within a community. We must honor this purpose for all memorials in order to pass on the commemoration of those who lost their lives during war and continue their legacy to educate generations of the tragic events their ancestors had to overcome.

- Experts

To grasp the current situation with the Memorial Natatorium, I selected two individuals who have done their own research and have the expertise to give me some feedback on the significance in preserving and rehabilitating the pool. The summary is portrayed in their own words during our meetings and I do not take credit for their statements as written.

Brian Turner is currently the Senior Field Officer & Publics Lands Attorney in the San Francisco office for the National Trust for Historic Preservation. He is a strong advocate in protecting and saving historic places.

Turner has been involved in fighting to preserve the Memorial Natatorium since the issue was initiated. He has written articles on the Memorial Natatorium and was involved in the National Trust's effort for endorsement from individuals in supporting the preservation of this National Treasure.

Turner interprets the Memorial Natatorium as an incubator for swimming. Majority of Oahu's citizens didn't know how to swim. This made the Memorial Natatorium a safe haven to practice swimming, welcoming all no matter their swimming skill level. It was a place where racial segregation was absent; the arrival of Americans caused negative criticism towards the native Hawaiians. The Memorial Natatorium reflects diversity, an important aspect in the culture of Hawaiian heritage.

Maurice "Mo" Radke is currently the President of the Friends of the Natatorium. He served in the U.S. Navy for 30 years, retiring as Commander Master Chief for Commander in 2006. Mo is a member of the Professional Golfers Association of America (PGA), Director of Golf Instruction at the Kaneohe Klipper Golf Course, Marine Corps Base Kaneohe.

The Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium was created to honor the act of service of young men who separated themselves from their family into something that is unknown to them and didn't directly involve them. When someone decides to do something that's bigger than them, they have done a great service. These young men were doing a great service for Hawai'i and the United States.

The Memorial Natatorium's only intention was to honor those in service, but after its opening in 1927, it became more than just being a memorial. The pool itself was meant to host swimming competitions and for families and visitors to enjoy swimming activities. But the swimming venue became far beyond what its original intent was. It became a place that was known for having famous swimmers racing each other in national competitions and breaking world records. It became a popular place for swimming, social gatherings, and field trips.

The last World War I veteran died in 2012. But veterans from all other wars: World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Gulf War... recognize the Memorial Natatorium and its commemoration to the act of service. With its closure in 1979, we can see there is a lack of recognition in taking care of the Memorial Natatorium and this shows veterans what people think of service. It disrespects the dead and makes the people of Hawai'i look like they don't care. This is bad for the *mana*.

## CHAPTER 5 MORE THAN JUST A MEMORIAL

### I Will Have Done My Duty: Remembering Hawai'i's Great War Servicemen

An unfortunate truth about the Memorial Natatorium is that there is a great unawareness of who the dead are that braved into battle. Knowing who these people are will promote a deeper meaning than what the surface of the Memorial Natatorium's commemoration stands for. Disregarding acknowledgement of a memorial puts the structure at threat of being removed and forgotten, thus leading to dishonor and disrespect towards the dead. The stories of who these men were will make people understand that duty was inevitable, but neither were their hopes and dreams. The following are examples of the fallen soldiers...

"Don't worry, Mother dear. We have got to win this war. If I fall do not mourn for me as I will have done only my duty. All of us won't come back. I hope I shall. However, if I do not, always remember me as having done my full duty for my country."<sup>76</sup>

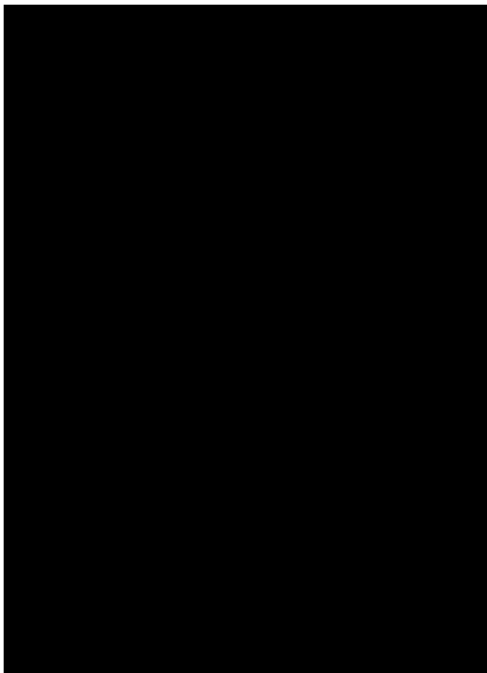


Figure 22 (*left*): Obituary of John Rupert Rowe. Courtesy of Daniel Gabehart.

These were the words John Rupert Rowe wrote in a letter to his mother before entering the battle in France. Rowe was the "first Hawaiian boy in General Pershing's great army to give his life in the allied cause."<sup>77</sup> He died in France on July 31, 1919 and was placed on the Roll of Honor. Before the war, Rowe went to Royal School and worked as an office boy at the *Advertiser*.<sup>78</sup> He was also known for having a

<sup>76</sup> Kuykendall, Ralph S., *Hawaii in the World War* (Hawaii: Honolulu Star-Bulletin, 1928) xvi.

<sup>77</sup> Hawai'i Descendants, "World War I in Hawai'i." <https://thehawaiidescendants.wordpress.com> (accessed November 17, 2017).

<sup>78</sup> Ireland, Brian, *The U.S. Military in Hawai'i: Colonialism, Memory and Resistance* (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2011) 89.

musical talent, planning to follow a musical career outside of Hawai'i. He had travelled with a group of Hawaiian singers before being drafted into the war.<sup>79</sup>

George Kawaelani Dwight was a private who enlisted in the Gas and Flame Corps 30<sup>th</sup> Engineers. He contracted pneumonia at an eastern camp and died on January 27, 1918 in Annapolis, Maryland. He wrote letters to his mother saying he enjoyed training and was looking forward to seeing battle.<sup>80</sup>

Dwight was born in Hawai'i and is the son of Ellen Dwight. His brother, James A. Dwight, also served during World War I. Before enlisting, he worked as a clerk for Lewers Cooke on King Street.<sup>81</sup>

Lieutenant John O'Dowda, of the aviation service was accidentally killed in France, on November 13, 1918. O'Dowda was a Punahou graduate – Class of 1914. He was treasurer of his senior class and a popular athlete. John was a star tennis player who won the school cup two years in a row without losing a set. He also played on the Punahou football team. His fellow students remembered him for his “gift of gab,” and for winning the 1914 Damon Rhetorical content. John is one of two youngest names on the list of Punahou men who died in World War I.<sup>82</sup>

Edward Canfield Fuller was born on September 4, 1893 in Hamilton, Virginia. He was a member of the U.S. Naval Academy class of 1916 and was commissioned in the Marine Corps after graduating. He is the son of Major General Ben Hebard Fuller (Commandant of the United States Marine Corps from 1930 to 1934). Captain Fuller was killed in action with the 6<sup>th</sup> Marines in the Battle of Belleau Wood, France on June 12, 1918. He was later awarded the Distinguished Service Cross by the U.S. Army for

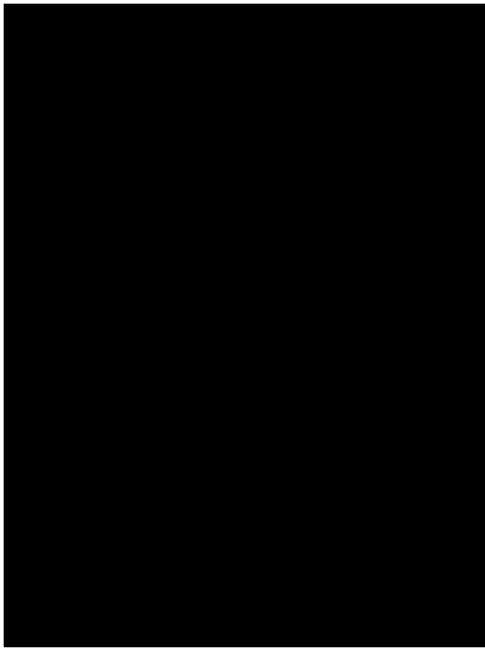
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<sup>79</sup> Ireland, Brian, *The U.S. Military in Hawai'i: Colonialism, Memory and Resistance* (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2011) 89.

<sup>80</sup> Ireland, Brian, *The U.S. Military in Hawai'i: Colonialism, Memory and Resistance* (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2011) 99.

<sup>81</sup> Hawai'i Descendants, “World War I in Hawai'i.” <https://thehawaiidescendants.wordpress.com> (accessed November 17, 2017).

<sup>82</sup> Breitwieser, Rachel, “Reenactment Honors Punahou Alumni Who Served in WWI,” (September 22, 2017). <http://www.punahou.edu/alumni/news/item/index.aspx?LinkId=5637&ModuleId=36> (accessed December 5, 2017).



“fearlessly exposing himself in an artillery barrage in order to get his men into a safer position.”<sup>83</sup>

The U.S.S. Fuller (DD-297), launched December 5, 1918, was named after Edward Canfield Fuller.<sup>84</sup>

“The memory of certain officers and men of the Navy and Marine Corps who made the supreme sacrifice in the war will be preserved in the name of new naval vessels. Destroyers have been named for the following who lost their lives in

service against the enemy: In memory of Capt. Edward C. Fuller, U.S. Marine Corps, who was killed while fighting gallantly in the Boise de Belleau.”<sup>85</sup>

Figure 23 (*above*): Photograph of Edward Canfield Fuller. Courtesy of Mo Radke.

Edmund Hedemann was born in Hawai’i on December 25, 1886. Hedemann was a Phi Gamma Delta at Stanford University, graduating with an economics major in the class of 1912. Before he entered active duty, he was a clerk Castle & Cooke in Honolulu. On March 19, 1919, he died at Camp Dodge, Iowa of influenza- pneumonia.<sup>86</sup>



Figure 24 (*right*): Photograph of Edmund Hedemann. Courtesy of Mo Radke.

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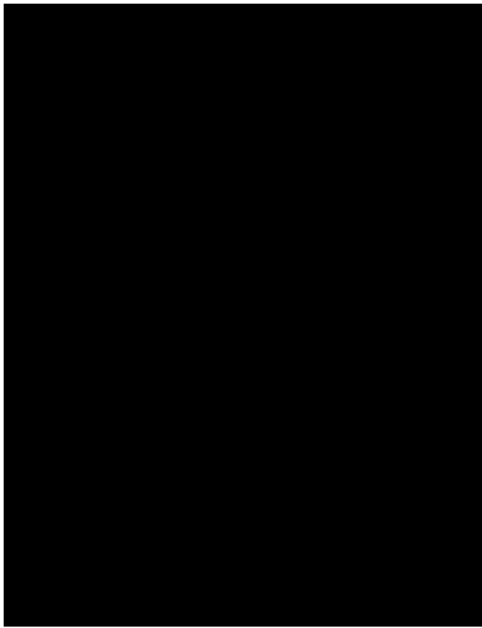
<sup>83</sup> Brooklyn Daily Eagle Almanac, American Almanac Collection (Library of Congress), v. 34, 1919.

<sup>84</sup> Ibid.

<sup>85</sup> Brooklyn Daily Eagle Almanac, American Almanac Collection (Library of Congress), v. 34, 1919.

<sup>86</sup> Hawai’i Descendants, “World War I in Hawai’i.” <https://thehawaiiidescendants.wordpress.com> (accessed November 17, 2017).





Richard Belmont Catton was born in Honolulu on July 12, 1890. He attended Oahu College, now known as Punahou School, and graduated from MIT's Electrical Engineering program in 1915.<sup>87</sup>

At MIT he was a member of the swim team and Phi Beta Epsilon fraternity. According to "Technology's War Record," the 1920 publication of the Alumni Association of MIT:

"Upon graduation from the Institute he offered his services to the Royal Engineers, but was not accepted. He attended the Plattsburg officers' training camp in 1917, and in November was commissioned second lieutenant in the Aviation Section of the United States Signal Corps."<sup>88</sup>

Figure 25 (*above*): Photograph of Richard Belmont Catton. Courtesy of Mo Radke.

In June, 1918, he sailed for France, to be employed in the construction of airdromes. In October, he had a severe attack of influenza, recovered sufficiently to leave the hospital but suffered a relapse. An operation for mastoiditis was necessary, and shortly afterward another from which he died at Savenay, France, on April 14, 1919."<sup>89</sup>

Apau Kau was born on September 9, 1890 in Kohala, Hawai'i. Born to Chinese immigrant parents, his family moved to Honolulu in 1901 and there he attended Kauluwea School and Royal School.<sup>90</sup> Kau's teenage years were surrounded by the sport of baseball becoming a spitball pitcher and competing in highly competitive Oahu

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<sup>87</sup> Hawai'i Descendants, "World War I in Hawai'i." <https://thehawaiidescendants.wordpress.com> (accessed November 17, 2017).

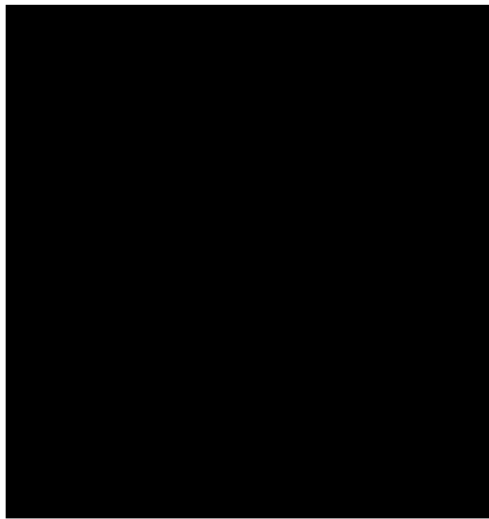
<sup>88</sup> Ibid.

<sup>89</sup> Ibid.

<sup>90</sup> Bedingfield, Gary, "Baseball's Greatest Sacrifice." [http://www.baseballsgreatestsacrifice.com/biographies/kau\\_apau.html](http://www.baseballsgreatestsacrifice.com/biographies/kau_apau.html) (accessed January 24, 2018).

leagues for the Chinese Athletic Club.<sup>91</sup> He continued to play as the Chinese-Hawaiian team grew popular and competed in amateur, college, semi-pro and minor league teams across the nation and at home.

By 1917, Kau had moved to live in Philadelphia and worked as a salesman in the sporting goods section of the Lit Brothers Department Store. He also pitched for the Lit Brothers team and shutout the Ketterlinus Baseball Club, 16-0, in his team's home opener that year.<sup>92</sup>



At age 27, Kau registered for the draft in April 1917, and was called to service on September 22 under Company E, Second Battalion.<sup>93</sup> He continued to play baseball, but was short-lived due to his regiment prepping deployment to France. Upon reaching the battlefield, Sergeant Kau led the Second Battalion to aid the First Battalion against the German frontline but was killed by German gunfire.<sup>94</sup> On November 5, 1918, Kau was

pronounced dead where six days later, on November 11, the war ended.<sup>95</sup>

News of his death reached home in early December and was reported across the United States.<sup>96</sup> One of Kau's brothers, A. En Sang Pau, told Hnolulu Star-Advertiser, "We had hoped for the best and now that the war had been over three weeks we hoped Apau Kau had survived its terrible ravages. While our grief is great, we are proud that in dying our brother gave his all for his country."<sup>97</sup>

Figure 26: (*above*): Photograph of Apau Kau. Courtesy of Astrid van Erp.

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<sup>91</sup> Bedingfield, Gary, "Baseball's Greatest Sacrifice." [http://www.baseballsgreatestsacrifice.com/biographies/kau\\_apau.html](http://www.baseballsgreatestsacrifice.com/biographies/kau_apau.html) (accessed January 24, 2018).

<sup>92</sup> Ibid.

<sup>93</sup> Ibid.

<sup>94</sup> Ibid.

<sup>95</sup> Ibid.

<sup>96</sup> Ibid.

<sup>97</sup> Ibid.

Finding out who these men were that the Memorial Natatorium commemorates will provide a greater sense of value than its original intent and educate spectators who pass through the memorial. There are still many stories from the remaining 94 servicemen that needs to unfold, but further research needs to be gathered. Discovering and collecting most of these men's stories will give the design phase of this thesis proper and continuing commemoration. A list of all 101 servicemen can be seen in the tables of the following pages. The highlighted names are what stories have been shared in this thesis to gain insight of deeper commemoration within the design phase of this project.

# **ARMY**

Last Name	First Name	Rank	Place of Death	Date of Death
Agar	Vidal	Private	Honolulu	January 12, 1919
Aki	Adam Young	Corporal	Ft. Shafter	December 12, 1918
Aki	Frank K., Jr.	Private	Schofield	July 30, 1918
Arcilo	Bragee	Private	Schofield	December 18, 1918
Arozal	Ariston	Private	Schofield	July 24, 1918
Bega	Cipriano	Private	Oahu	May 5, 1919
Bueno	Anastacio	Corporal	Schofield	March 26, 1919
Castillo	Esteban	Private	Schofield	January 23, 1919
Catton	Richard Belmont	Lieutenant	Savenay, France	April 14, 1919
Chapman	Henry Henley	Lieutenant	France	
Choy	Chin Sung	Private	Ft. Shafter	August 14, 1918
Ciempoon	Bidal	Private	Schofield	December 15, 1918
Cornelison	Alexander C.	Major	Camp Shelby, Mississippi	November 21, 1918
Cruz	Juan	Private	Schofield	
Daguman	Julian	Private	Schofield	August 24, 1918
De Roo	Carel J.	Field Clerk	Honolulu	May 25, 1918
Dolim	Frank P.	Private		January 6, 1918
Dwight	George K.	Private	Annapolis, Maryland	January 27, 1918
Esbra	Rufino	Bugler	Honolulu	July 19, 1918
Eugenio	Anatolio	Private	Honolulu	March 13, 1919
Evans	Henry J.	Private	Fort Sill, Oklahoma	February 5, 1918
Ezera	Ephraim H.	Private	Honolulu	July 7, 1918
Gaspar	Louis J.	Private	France	November 1, 1918
Green	Francis J.	Captain	Haleiwa, Oahu	January 11, 1918
Hauli	Abraham	Corporal	Honolulu	February 7, 1919
Hedemann	Edmund	Corporal	Camp Dodge, Iowa	March 19, 1919
Ioepa	Daniel K.	Corporal	France	
Iskow	Edward J.	Private	France	December 30, 1918
Kaaua	Robert	Private		
Kaea	Kuulei John	Private	Honolulu	March 16, 1919
Kahokuoluna	Edward N.	Private	Honolulu	July 10, 1918
Kaiewe	Paulo			
Kainoa	Sam	Private	Honolulu	July 14, 1918
Kalaeloa	Charles	Private	Oahu	July 11, 1918
Kau	Apau	Sergeant	France	November 5, 1918
Kino	Charles	Private	Honolulu	September 18, 1918
Kuaimoku	Edward K.	Private	Schofield	July 16, 1918
Lee	Han Young		Indiana	1918
Makua	John A.	Private	Schofield	October 15, 1918
Marr	Kenneth D.	Private		November 25, 1918
Mattos	Anthony R.		France	
Mills	Philip Overton	Captain	France	
Moke	Sam	Private	Honolulu	July 19, 1918
Monsieur	Mariano	Private	Schofield	July 11, 1918
Naia	Peter	Private	Oahu	March 2, 1919
Napoleon	Walter N.			
O'Dowda	John S.	Lieutenant	France	November 13, 1918
Orbe	Aurelio	Private	Honolulu	September 10, 1918
Puali	Joe	Private	Schofield	August 21, 1918
Quibal	Juan	Private	Schofield	August 11, 1918
Ramos	Manuel	Private	At Sea	February 5, 1918
Riley	William Russell	Colonel	San Francisco	September 8, 1920
Rodrigues	Richard F.		Douglas, Arizona	November 23, 1918
Rowe	John R.	Private	France	July 31, 1918
Santos	Pablo R.	Corporal	Schofield	July 10, 1918
Sarsosa	Jose	Private	Honolulu	July 6, 1918
Scholtz	William K.	Captain	Honolulu	June 17, 1918
Tenebre	Rufo	Private	Schofield	November 28, 1918
Thomas	Moses	Private	Honolulu	March 2, 1919
Tingking	Paustino	Private	Oahu	July 11, 1918
Tom	George B.	Private	France	October 8, 1918
Unuiwi	Henry K.	Private	France	September 30, 1918
Valente	Manuel, Jr.			Septemeber 1918
Vieira	Frank C., Jr.		Otisville, New York	March 1919
Waialeale	James	Private	Honolulu	January 15, 1919
Waihoikala	Levi	Private	Ft. Shafter	July 20, 1918
Watson	Clarence J.	Private	France	November 7, 1918
Withington	David L.	Corporal in S.A.T.C.	Plymouth, Massachusetts	October 5, 1918

Table 1: Roll of Honor, sheet 1. Row highlighted are men researched for this document.

**NAVY**

Last Name	First Name	Rank	Place of Death	Date of Death
Auerbach	Paul H.	Ensign	Colorado Springs, Colorado	May 6, 1919
Bal	Archibald	Storekeeper	Charleston, South Carolina	October 16, 1918
Char	Frederick	Yeoman	Pearl Harbor	October 31, 1918
Gouveia	Manuel, Jr.	Seaman	U.S.S. Schurz	June 21, 1918
Graham	Ivan Montrose	Lieutenant	Quebec, Canada	September 21, 1918
Kaaaukea	Herman	Musician	Pearl Harbor	September 2, 1918
Kana	John	Cook	Hull, England	January 15, 1920
Kauhane	Ralph J.	Yeoman	Pearl Harbor	March 4, 1919
Raymond	Frank	Chief Boatswain's Mate	Pearl Harbor	March 12, 1920
Silva	John A.		Brooklyn, New York	October 11, 1918
Warren	Charles F.A., Jr.	Fireman	Balboa, Canal Zone	December 7, 1917

Table 2: Roll of Honor, sheet 2.

**MARINE CORPS**

Last Name	First Name	Rank	Place of Death	Date of Death
Fuller	Edward	Captain	France	

**IN THE SERVICE OF GREAT BRITAIN**

Last Name	First Name	Rank	Place of Death	Date of Death
Blackwood	F.S.			
Bryant	James H.R.	Lieutenant	Italy	October 4, 1918
Cameron	Kenneth			
Churchill	B. Clair	Lieutenant	Damery, France	August 15, 1918
Collie	Alexander	Private	France	July 1, 1916
Davies	Henry L.	Lieutenant	France	October 26, 1914
Douglas	J.			
Fogarty	H.			
French	John Scott	Private	Belgium	November 17, 1915
Ibbetson	George			
Jones	Edward			
Leander	R.L.			
Llewellyn	Ted		France	
Mackenzie	Robert G.			
Maclean	Norman	Gunner		April 30, 1918
May	James P.			
Potter	Gideon	Private	Belgium	October 28, 1917
Sharp	Robert			
Turner	Gordon			
Usborne	Claude O.H.			
Williams	Thomas P.			

Table 3: Roll of Honor, sheet 3. Row highlighted are men researched for this document.

## Remembering Hawai'i's Swimming Champion: Duke Kahanamoku

The aquatic lifestyle that Duke Kahanamoku and so many Hawaiians enjoyed derives from Hawai'i's unique origin.<sup>98</sup> They were known as watermen or waterwomen. As a territory, Hawai'i was only recognized as an important strategic point due to its geographic position, so implementing a pool as part of the Memorial Natatorium's design has brought the sport of swimming to become a popular activity and gave limelight for Hawai'i. Of course, this wouldn't have happened if Duke Kahanamoku didn't accept the 100-meter freestyle exhibition swim, which altogether brought him more fame as well as the Memorial Natatorium.

Duke Paoa Kahanamoku was a native Hawaiian born on August 24, 1890 in Honolulu, Hawai'i. He is the first of six sons and three daughters of Duke and Julia Kahanamoku. He spent most of his time in Waikīkī doing what he loved – swimming, surfing, canoeing and bodysurfing.<sup>99</sup> He became a competitive swimmer, five-time Olympic medalist, and popularized the ancient Hawaiian sport of surfing. Duke has also worked as a law enforcement officer, a beach volleyball player, an actor, and a businessman.

As part of Hawaiian heritage, it was natural instinct that gave them a calling towards the ocean waters. Duke's life was “completely centered in Waikīkī”<sup>100</sup> and you would always find him in the water surfing, swimming, canoeing, or body boarding. For Duke's family, “being in the water was as central and basic to their lives as eating and sleeping.”<sup>101</sup> The ocean was essentially the Kahanamoku family's backyard. “Mother said, ‘My boys and girls, go out as far as you want. Never be afraid in the water,’” Sargent Kahanamoku said.<sup>102</sup>

As a young man, Duke was not known to be a scholar and didn't make any plans to finish school. He became a well-known surfer and canoer, entering in local

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<sup>98</sup> Davis, David, *Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2015), 10.

<sup>99</sup> T S Restaurants, “Duke's Remarkable Life” <http://www.dukeswaikiki.com/duke>, accessed November 22, 2017.

<sup>100</sup> Davis, David, *Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2015), 15.

<sup>101</sup> Davis, David, *Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2015), 9.

<sup>102</sup> T S Restaurants, “Duke's Remarkable Life” <http://www.dukeswaikiki.com/duke>, accessed November 22, 2017.

competitions. In 1910, he was asked to join the Healanani Boat Club where he practiced with the swimming team.<sup>103</sup> After his first official appearance at the swimming races in Honolulu Harbor, the first article to identify Duke found him to be a swimming phenomenon, breaking three freestyle world records in Hawai'i, and received followers whom were proud of Duke and his accomplishments.<sup>104</sup> It led to Duke's recruitment in qualifying for the Olympic team.

The Kahanamoku family did not come from a line of royalty or wealth, making it difficult to afford to pay for Duke's travelling expenses. Luckily, he received vast support from his people giving him the opportunity to represent their homeland. The funds collected brought Duke recognition being a unique athlete highly notable in Hawai'i. This brought "pressure to perform well and represent his homeland with dignity,"<sup>105</sup> but he took on the challenge stating the "opportunity to compete at the highest level"<sup>106</sup> was all he ever wanted.

During his travels to exhibition and completion swimming meets, he continued to amaze spectators and experts alike with his swimming technique and form, for they have "never seen a Hawaiian before,"<sup>107</sup> because "he swam differently"<sup>108</sup> amongst other swimmers. It was unique and awe-inspiring in that he looked graceful as he surged through the water.

After Duke was officially named a member of the U.S. Olympic team, he travelled with the team to compete in the 1912 Olympics in Stockholm. To qualify for the quarter finals, Duke had to compete in a preliminary swimming meet. The swimming events took place on a bay in central Stockholm, which was unfamiliar water to Duke. He struggled to adjust but was able to qualify in the quarterfinals. Misinformed on the semifinal schedule, Duke and two fellow American swimmers were announced as disqualified from the Olympics. There was a great debate amongst the jurors and

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<sup>103</sup> Davis, David, *Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2015), 29.

<sup>104</sup> Davis, David, *Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2015), 37-39.

<sup>105</sup> Ibid., 41.

<sup>106</sup> Ibid.

<sup>107</sup> Ibid., 47.

<sup>108</sup> Ibid.

international swimmers on whether this was fair. The final debate stated that two of the four fastest swimmers who beat the time of the third-place finisher (1:06.2) would be qualified to compete in the finals. Duke clocked a personal best of 1:02.4. He felt relieved admitting that he felt great pressure in competing. He wasn't just competing for the United States; he was also swimming to bring honor to Hawai'i. The next day, the finals took place and Duke grabbed the gold, his first Olympic medal. He also won a Silver Olympic medal in his first 4x200-meter relay.<sup>109</sup>

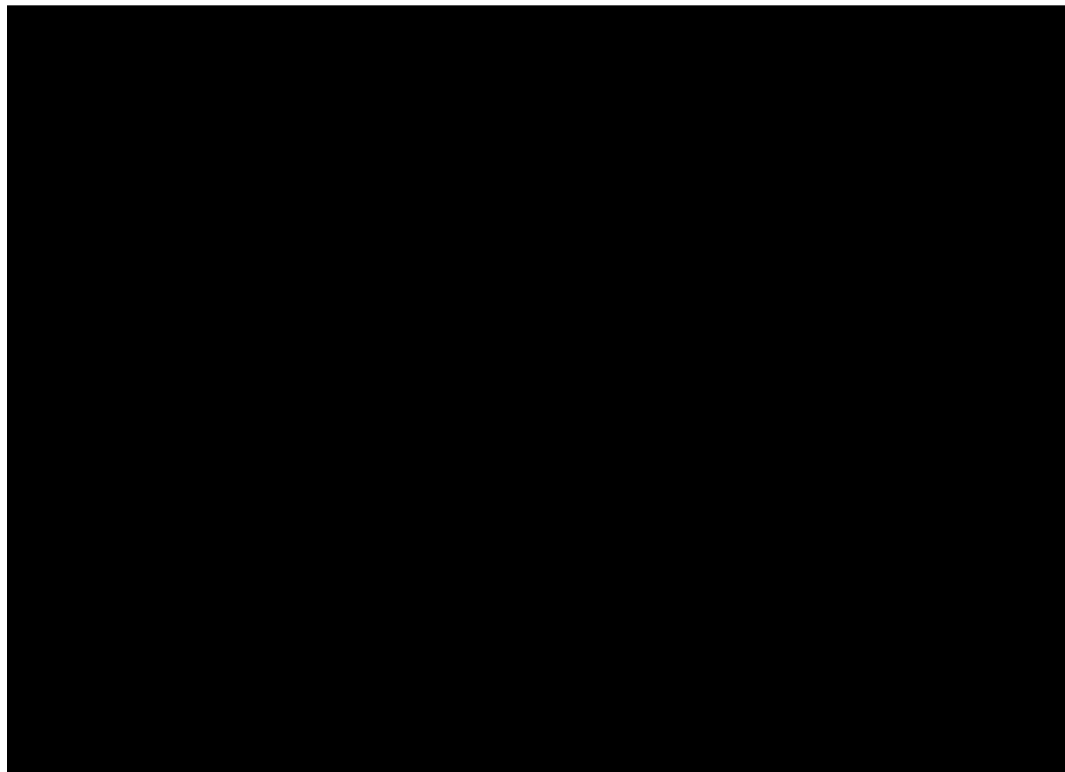


Figure 27: The day that Duke's life changed forever: Duke extends his lead in Honolulu harbor, 1911. Courtesy James W. Gaddis.

After the Olympic games, Duke received abundant requests for his services as a swimmer and travelled across Europe and the United States. During several swim exhibitions, he was able to surf the waters on his free time. This peaked interest of

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<sup>109</sup> Davis, David, *Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2015), 61-63.



spectators, for they have never heard of surfing or what a surfboard was until they witnessed Duke rolling across giant waves.<sup>110</sup>

Duke's travels slowly led him to returning home, where the news of his Olympic accomplishments spread like wildfire. His arrival was greeted by "an outpouring of pure *aloha*."<sup>111</sup> During the turn of the twentieth century, most amateur athletes quietly resumed their lives after the Olympics. Duke's situation was different. He was not just a sports champion; he represented all of Hawai'i.<sup>112</sup>

Duke's fame brought businessmen, politicians, sport officials, and promoters to seek greater recognition for Hawai'i. Great things were to come of Hawai'i being proud of their swimming champion, but Duke soon fell out of place and was struggling to keep his amateur status. He continued to enter swimming competitions and meets, but people began to question if his peak performance was at an end. Duke began looking for other opportunities to keep himself occupied and hoped these would receive appraisal. During the Great War, he took a trip to Australia and New Zealand where he introduced surfing. He announced that he would not participate in the Olympic games until after the war was over.

On November 11, 1918, World War I came to an end. During the war, Duke did his best to make a living as a pilot but that quickly went out the door. He was encouraged to start training again to compete in the 1920 Olympics in Antwerp. He won two more Gold medals with the same anticipation expected by spectators when he first set foot in the 1912 Olympics. The surprise he never anticipated to receive was when he returned home. The *Pacific Commercial Advertiser* began to criticize Duke due to his no show for a Honolulu competition scheduled the same time as the Olympics. Article after article, the press pushed high negative criticism to the public claiming Duke as a coward for pulling out of an important meet in Hawai'i.<sup>113</sup> He wanted to prove to the newspaper they were wrong about him. He trained and competed in races, where he easily won.

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<sup>110</sup> Davis, David, *Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2015), 66-67.

<sup>111</sup> Ibid., 71.

<sup>112</sup> Davis, David, *Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2015), 72.

<sup>113</sup> Ibid., 122.

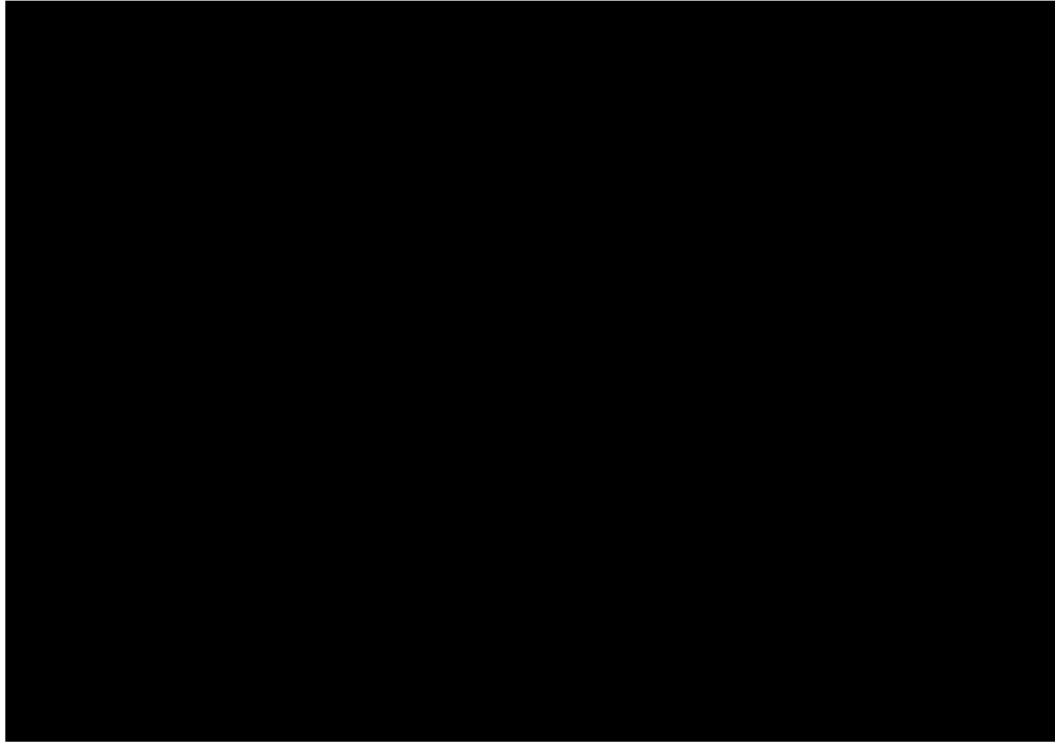


Figure 28: Duke receiving the gold medal from King Gustaf V at the 1912 Stockholm Olympics. Courtesy James W. Gaddis.

America's Olympic Committee officially announced the qualifiers for the U.S. swim team. Duke and Norman Ross were joined by six other Hawaiians: Pua Kealoha, Warren Kealoha, Bill Harris, Ludy Langer, Harold "Stubby" Kruger, and Helen Moses.<sup>114</sup> With so many Hawaiian swimmers on the Olympic team, it paid tribute to Duke being able to inspire young talent to follow in his footsteps. Duke set a new record on the 100-meter swim and won the gold medal, followed by two fellow Hawaiian and American teammates. A protest by Herald against Ross came up, having officials disqualify him and ordered the final to be a redo. Duke still came out first, with Kealoha coming in second and Harris third.<sup>115</sup> The United States took second, after the Australians, in the 4x200 meter relay.

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<sup>114</sup> Davis, David, *Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2015), 125.

<sup>115</sup> *Ibid.*, 131.

After the Olympics, Duke felt content in proving the skeptics wrong and received praise for glorifying Hawai'i once more. Returning home, he continued to struggle in having a long-term career. Duke met an unexpected protégé, Johann (Johnny) Weismuller, who was taken under the arms of coach William (Bill) Bachrach, one of America's best swimming coaches. Bachrach wanted to overthrow Duke's title and believed Johnny was the perfect candidate to do so.

Johnny was born on June 2, 1904, in the village of Freidorf, near Transylvania. This region was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Both of Johnny's parents were of German descent, where his first language was speaking German. His parents moved to Pennsylvania to start a new life in the United States.

He trained Johnny to have proper mechanics and swimming techniques. In the summer of 1921, he unleashed his aquatic pupil during an exhibition at Ohio's Buckeye Lake, where Johnny broke Duke's record in the 100-yard open water event. Not long after that, at the Brighton Beach pool in Brooklyn, he broke Duke's record in the 100-yard event. Johnny continued to break records and news about his coming spread like wildfire.<sup>116</sup>

Word about Johnny travelled quickly to Duke, who observed the young man's progression heading towards fame. Several swimming meets and the national championships in Honolulu gave Bachrach and Johnny a hopeful intent of challenging Duke head-to-head. But Duke pulled out of the meet and headed to California to find a long-term career. Many believed his intentions were that he was afraid to challenge Johnny, while others reported that his removal was due to illness. Duke's brother, Sam, went on to face Johnny in Hawai'i, but Johnny was unstoppable coming in first.

Duke's intent in moving was to go to Los Angeles in hopes of having a film career in Hollywood. During the Stockholm Olympics in 1912, one of his opponents was Dr. Oscar Henning, a representative of Sweden and known in the official records as Thor Henning.

Henning was a manager-promoter who spoke to Duke about being a star through acting during the competition. Discussion took place and there was a glimpse of hope for Duke,

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<sup>116</sup> Davis, David, *Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2015), 137-138.

but the film Henning was producing fell through and Duke was back to square one. He continued to participate in swimming meets and prepared himself for the challenge against Johnny and Bachrach in the 1924 Paris Olympics.

In preparation to qualify for the 1924 Paris Olympics, Duke would face Johnny in the 100-meter freestyle swim, alongside his younger brother, Sam. All three had won their first- round meets to qualify, eliminating Norman Ross and “Stubby” Kruger. All eyes were on the men as they readied themselves. Before the starter could pull the trigger, the swimmers jumped impulsively to a false start and had to ready themselves again. At the sound of the trigger, all men swam intensely against each other, the crowd roaring, then Johnny was announced the first- place winner. His time of 59.4 beat Duke’s record from Antwerp by one second. In second came Duke, with his Sam coming in third. The three were selected for the U.S. Olympic team and Bachrach announced that he intended to enter Johnny in four events: the 100 and 400 meters, the 4x200-meter relay, and the water polo team. Duke and Sam were disappointed after they found out they would only be participating in one event. It was a greater disappointment for Duke, especially since he anchored the U.S. team in winning the gold for 1920 Olympics in the relay and water polo.

The day of the Olympics finally came, and Duke was determined more than ever to beat Johnny. Johnny had already completed four swimming events, in which he broke records and assisted the U.S. team to take the gold. On the day of the 100-meter swim, three of the five finalists were American: Sam, Johnny, and Duke. A close call midway, Bachrach’s training for Johnny finally paid off and he took first with a breaking record of 59 seconds flat. Duke came in second at 1:01.4, “a second slower than his mark from 1920.”<sup>117</sup> Sam came in third at 1:01.8.<sup>118</sup> Duke’s best effort fell short, earning him the silver medal. The American swimmers and divers won thirteen of sixteen gold medals in Paris.

After the Olympics, Duke wanted to redeem himself at a meet in England but was still defeated by Johnny. He began to question himself on what-if situations thinking that

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<sup>117</sup> Davis, David, *Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2015), 152.

<sup>118</sup> Ibid.

if he had done certain things, he would have defeated Johnny. Duke respected Johnny but was still bitter about his defeat. He would tell reporters several different excuses of his defeat.

As Johnny continued to receive praise, Duke laid low and retreated back to Hollywood. He signed a contract with Paramount and took on almost 30 different Hollywood movies. Off screen, he socialized with other celebrities and spread his knowledge of swimming and surfing. He even took on golfing and played baseball.

Though Duke pursued his film career, he didn't stop participating as an amateur-professional swimmer. In August 1927, Duke decided to turn pro. He organized a stage act that trumpeted him as the "greatest Swimming Champion."<sup>119</sup> A huge tank was built so that Duke and other famous swimmers could perform and show off tricks.<sup>120</sup>

Alongside Johnny and coach Bachrach, Duke sailed to Hawai'i in mid-August. The grand opening of the Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium brought Duke home for the first time in years.

"The long-gestating project had evolved from a statue to honor local men who had served and died during World War I into a memorial that also benefited the living. And what could be more beneficial for Hawai'i than a state-of-the-art swimming stadium, built right into the ocean, complete with a hundred-meter saltwater pool, changing rooms, bleachers for 2,500 spectators, and a public park?"<sup>121</sup>

The Memorial Natatorium is where Duke rebuilt and rekindled connections with friends and family, especially his mother. He found that his brother David, the head of the Waikīkī Beach Patrol, had married, and Sam was engaged. Their youngest sibling, Sargent, was seventeen years old when Duke returned.<sup>122</sup>

Duke celebrated his thirty-seventh birthday by performing a 100-meter exhibition swim after the dedication ceremony for the Memorial Natatorium. The national swimming championships was to follow, but Duke did not bother to compete in the meet.

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<sup>119</sup> Davis, David, *Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2015), 166.

<sup>120</sup> Ibid.

<sup>121</sup> Ibid., 167.

<sup>122</sup> Ibid.

The crowd applauded for Duke's honorary performance, but once again, Johnny stole the spotlight, winning races and even defeating Hawai'i's newest swimming sensation, Clarence "Buster" Crabbe.<sup>123</sup>

Duke was proud of the Memorial Natatorium's making. He believed the new facility would grant the Hawaiian Islands the opportunity to have a comeback in swimming. He exclaimed that now, Hawai'i has a fit place to train its youngsters. "Until now it has been almost impossible to develop young swimmers simply because of a lack of an adequate pool."<sup>124</sup>

Visiting home and celebrating the Memorial Natatorium gave Duke a moment of rejuvenation. Upon returning to Los Angeles, he made plans for a comeback. He would aim for the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics and redeem himself. Regrettably, he fell ill and was unable to participate.

Duke continued to work on his filming career and later participated in the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics. In 1934, he returned to his homeland as a sheriff for the City and County of Honolulu and in 1966, was the first person to be inducted into both the Swimming and Surfing Halls of Fame. Duke died in Honolulu on January 22, 1968, receiving a Waikīkī Beachboy funeral by his people. In 1984, he was posthumously inducted into the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame.<sup>125</sup>

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<sup>123</sup> Davis, David, *Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2015), 167.

<sup>124</sup> Ibid.

<sup>125</sup> T S Restaurants, "Duke's Remarkable Life" <http://www.dukeswaikiki.com/duke>, accessed November 22, 2017.

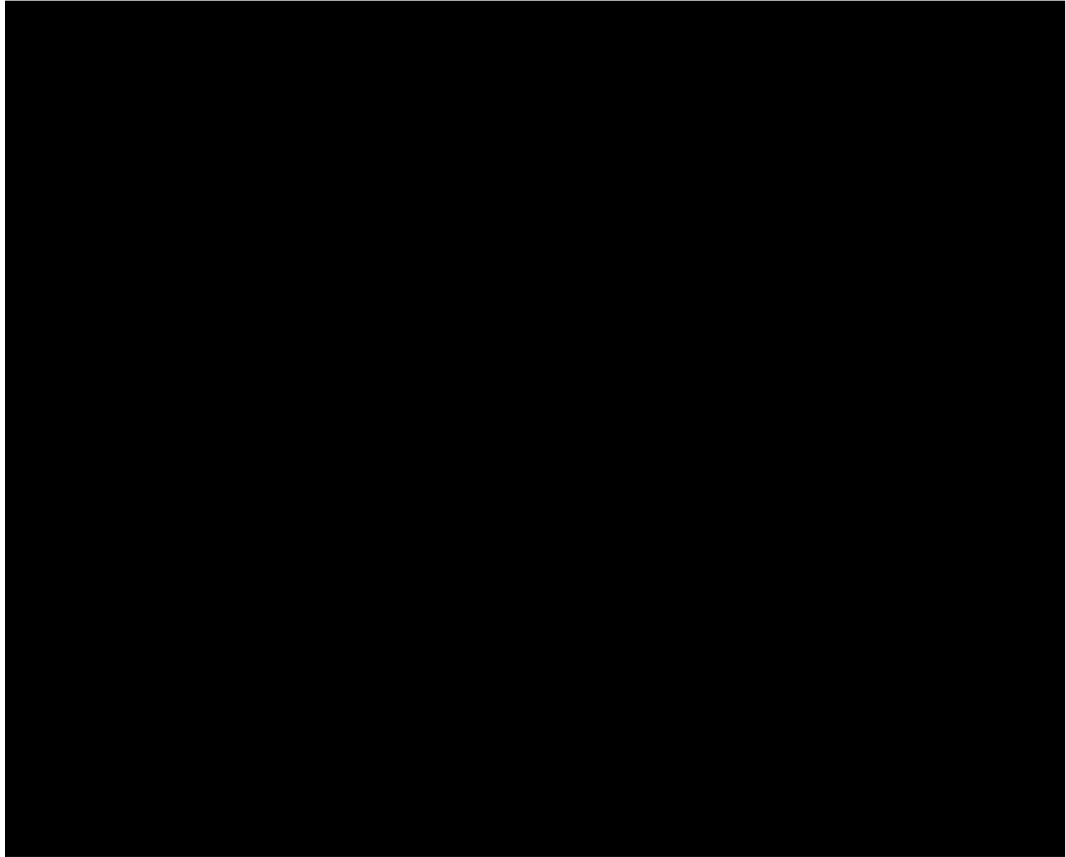


Figure 29: Johnny Weissmuller and Clarence “Buster” Crabbe flank Duke at their induction into the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 1965. International Swimming Hall of Fame.

## Restoring Hawaiianness

If there is something the Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium may lack, it is having a Hawaiian sense of character. There were previous criticisms that stated the Memorial Natatorium expressed anything of Hawaiian aesthetic. The only thing possibly Hawaiian is the commemoration the Memorial stands for and the pool itself, where many famous Hawaiian swimmers competed in swimming competitions. These are now intangible aspects that need to be addressed through visualization to allow the Memorial Natatorium to receive the value it once had.

In a report compiled by George Kanahele, there was a need to develop and improve the quality of the Waikiki experience. The beachfront lacks the theme of being Hawaiian. There is no sense of Hawaiian quality or character that gives Waikiki an identity that belongs to the island culture. “Waikiki needs to reflect a sense of place, a Hawaiian sense of place.”<sup>126</sup> A vision from organizations recommend several hundred ideas and concepts to make Waikiki a continuing part of the Hawaiian culture while being the largest industry competing amongst other international tourism. Taking these ideas and implementing an innovative design, which I discuss in the next chapter, can be a starting point in saving Waikiki from being frowned upon as having “nothing Hawaiian about it,”<sup>127</sup> which is the root issue the Memorial Natatorium risks sitting untouched and ignored. “The best remedy for ignorance is education,”<sup>128</sup> thus giving more reason to restore and preserve the Memorial Natatorium.

The next chapter discusses the design scope on how to apply all the research found in this document and implement restoration and revitalization to the Memorial Natatorium to recreate its function as a “living memorial”.

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<sup>126</sup> Kanahele, George S., *Restoring Hawaiianness To Waikiki* (Honolulu, HI: For the Queen Emma Foundation, 1994).

<sup>127</sup> Ibid.

<sup>128</sup> Ibid.



## CHAPTER 6 DESIGN PROPOSAL

The design proposal is a product of the research of this document in commemorating soldiers from Hawai'i who participated in World War I. The result is a concept to revitalize an abandoned memorial and bring visitors an intimate experience as they learn about the men the memorial was built to honor. The stories of these young men help to recognize the importance of Hawai'i's history and involvement in the Great War. Furthermore, the memorial was proposed and constructed during a time where the sport of swimming became popular, giving recognition to Hawai'i's famous swimmers and forming a connection amongst nations around the world.

### Design Scope

The mission of this thesis project is to restore and preserve the Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium through redesign and revitalization of the memorial and its property. Further implications on the details of this mission can be found reading forward into this document.

### Design Intent

There are four main goals for this project: first, restore the commemoration of Hawai'i's fallen in World War I and provide better insight on each individual; second, commemorate Duke Kahanamoku's swimming career leading up to the grand opening of the Memorial Natatorium and its heyday, bringing to light the importance of the sport of swimming in Hawai'i; third, educate current and future generations to ensure the significance of the Memorial Natatorium's status as a "living memorial"; lastly, revitalize the facility and its surrounding area to create greater value within the community as a place for Hawai'i's children to be groomed as swimmers.

### Design Concept

Research shows there isn't one particular method used to honor soldiers via a memorial; however, general commemoration doesn't always do justice to the individuals involved. It isn't always practical to give individual recognition in a war memorial, but

that isn't the case here. Therefore, we should seek a method that works under Hawai'i's culture to educate visitors about this important but mostly forgotten segment of our archipelago's history.

### Design Framework

The design focuses on the redesign and revitalization of the Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium, its lawn and the surrounding property adjacent to Kaimana Beach and the Waikī Aquarium. Environmental and climate features are only applicable in the design specifically to Hawai'i but isn't the driving force in this design. It is possible that a similar model can be applied anywhere around the world.

### Program

The Memorial Natatorium faces major negligence and abandonment in which the entire facility is unusable. To bring it back to life, additional programmatic elements are necessary to revitalize, re-open, and continue to use the Memorial Natatorium. The first and most important program necessary is creating an extension in commemorating the soldiers of Hawai'i. Second, redesign and revitalization of the lawn to bring in people and become a usable space for everyday events such as parties, picnics, barbecues, and outdoor sport activities. Next, restoring and redesigning the space beneath the bleachers that isn't currently being utilized. Lastly, implications of the pool for re-opening for the public. The entire program of this project is separated as design phases to organize the process of restoration to the Memorial Natatorium and its property. Each program is described in further detail on the subsections of this section.

- Roll of Honor

The first phase in this project begins with the commemoration of the Hawaiian soldiers. The original Roll of Honor will have touch ups but kept in its original location during the redesign phase of the entire site. Though it is iconic, it doesn't provide much in the recognition of the men honored and needs enhancement. This improvement can happen by providing their individual stories, backgrounds, ranks and other information so visitors can learn more about these men. This enhancement will assist the Memorial

Natatorium's status as a "living memorial". The design will follow similar concepts by using a plaque embedded with the information. Each soldier will receive his own plaque, with an image and their information. If minimal information is available on a soldier, it is hoped a visitor might recognize an individual and provide information that can be added after verification.

- The Lawn

In order to create a better atmosphere to view the Roll of Honor, refining and revitalizing the lawn is necessary. Doing so will bring opportunity for people to utilize the space while participating in everyday activities, enhancing the Natatorium's status as a living memorial. The original design competition for construction of the facility included a music temple with seating area. Adding that aspect of the original design would augment the Natatorium's usage as a living memorial. In addition, pathways and green space would be integrated to connect the Memorial Natatorium to the Waikīkī Aquarium and Kaimana Beach in an organic aesthetic approach. The lawn spans about 200,000 square feet, which is sufficient in providing various activities to occur. With such a vast space, users can stop by and explore the Roll of Honor or take a seat in pocket areas under the shade. A roundabout in front of Kaimana Beach allows food truck vendors to park and provide food services to users, who can sit in grass areas around the lawn underneath a tree or on a bench and enjoy the scenery. If no ceremonial event is taking place, users can seat themselves on the landscape amphitheater seating area while enjoying the local band playing music or watch the sun set in the horizon.

- The Pool Basin

Restoration of the pool is imperative but has already been addressed by design proposals of the past. Even with a plan to restore the pool, an important factor needed to start restoration is major funding. This need can be met through additional programs that will function as extensions on the history of the Memorial Natatorium and its commemoration of Hawai'i's World War I soldiers. Two museums will provide exhibits that showcase: one, a history of how the Memorial Natatorium's came to be; two, the Natatorium's heyday when it spotlighted national recognition of Hawai'i's swimmers and

the rise of an international connection through the sport of swimming. Further inquiries will be discussed in the designated programs below.

- Under Bleacher Spaces

Duke Kahanamoku Museum

The purpose of this museum is to recognize Duke's swimming career before, during and after the Memorial Natatorium came to life. It will be located on the Diamond Head side of the memorial underneath the bleachers replacing the original office space currently being used as storage. The space will be expanded for circulation flexibility and allowing various displays throughout the museum. An important architectural feature will be the arches, which are to mimic the front façade and used as an inset for murals and other displays of Duke and other famous Hawaiian swimmers. These murals will be commissioned to local artists that could facilitate greater attraction to the museum. An attraction that will bring people to visit the museum is providing a photo booth. The booth will be unique consisting of a surfboard underneath the barrel of a polyurethane wave. Visitors can pay a fee to retrieve the photos they take, keeping the memories of their visit as an unforgettable experience.

Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium Museum

This museum will provide the research and be the keeper of the archive this project has collected as insight on the history of the Memorial Natatorium. Like the Duke Museum, it will be similar in design and function. It will be located in the Ewa side of the memorial underneath the bleachers, replacing an unused office space.

- Toilets, Showers + Locker Room

The space currently holding the toilets and showers will be redesigned for better aesthetics and function. Locker rooms will be added to provide secure storage for users. The space will be reduced in order to expand the museum programs and the additional revenue programs which can be found in their respective sections. Showers will be redesigned to accommodate for showering and changing simultaneously.

- Gift Shop

The gift shop is to be located on the Diamond Head side closest to Kaimana Beach and across the entry of the Duke Swimming Museum. It will sell merchandise as souvenirs and collectibles for visitors who are interested in bringing home a piece to cherish forever. The shop will assist in revenue to continue the function of the Memorial Natatorium.

- Café

The café will be placed on the Ewa side across the Memorial Natatorium Museum and adjacent to the Waikīkī Aquarium. It will be a small, cozy place for visitors to enjoy a cup of coffee or small snack while visiting the Memorial Natatorium. Additionally, this program will help to bring in revenue for the Memorial Natatorium's continued usage.

#### Additional Features

The existing layout of the Memorial Natatorium site doesn't seem to have an entrance that speaks to passersby as an important place to visit. A mall will be designed to create this grand entry and allow multiple transportation to load and unload. A directory will be located at the front after the loading/unloading area for visitors to view and explore the site. Seating areas in front of Kalakaua Avenue are designed as a landscape using stones as benches shaded by palm trees and the ground covered in dirt. This is a symbolic representation of ancient Hawaiian ruins honoring the dead with strong spiritual presence of *mana*. An example of this is the Kukaniloko Birthing Site, an important cultural and historical site that birthed Hawaiian royalty.<sup>129</sup>

The lawn will be covered in 'ākulikuli, a succulent ground cover ideal for sunny, dry areas and beach plantings.<sup>130</sup> This will supply a soft touch throughout the site and is convenient having the Memorial Natatorium located along the coastline.

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<sup>129</sup> Mingren, Wu. "Where Royals Were Born: The 1,000-Year-Old Kukaniloko Birthing Site of Hawaii" (November 17, 2016) <http://www.ancient-origins.net/ancient-places-americas/where-royals-were-born-1000-year-old-kukaniloko-birthing-site-hawaii-007026>, accessed March 24, 2018.

<sup>130</sup> Koob, Gregory A., "Native Hawaiian Plants as Ground Covers", <https://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/uhmg/news/V2-Koob-NativeGC.pdf>, accessed March 24, 2018, 6.

As you go along the mall, stone-like pocket areas and inset wooden benches are surrounded by native plants of Hawai'i. Colorful shrubs adjacent to the seating pockets are ornamented with flowers that represent an island of Hawai'i. This symbolism recognizes the boys of Hawai'i who enlisted in service during the Great War.

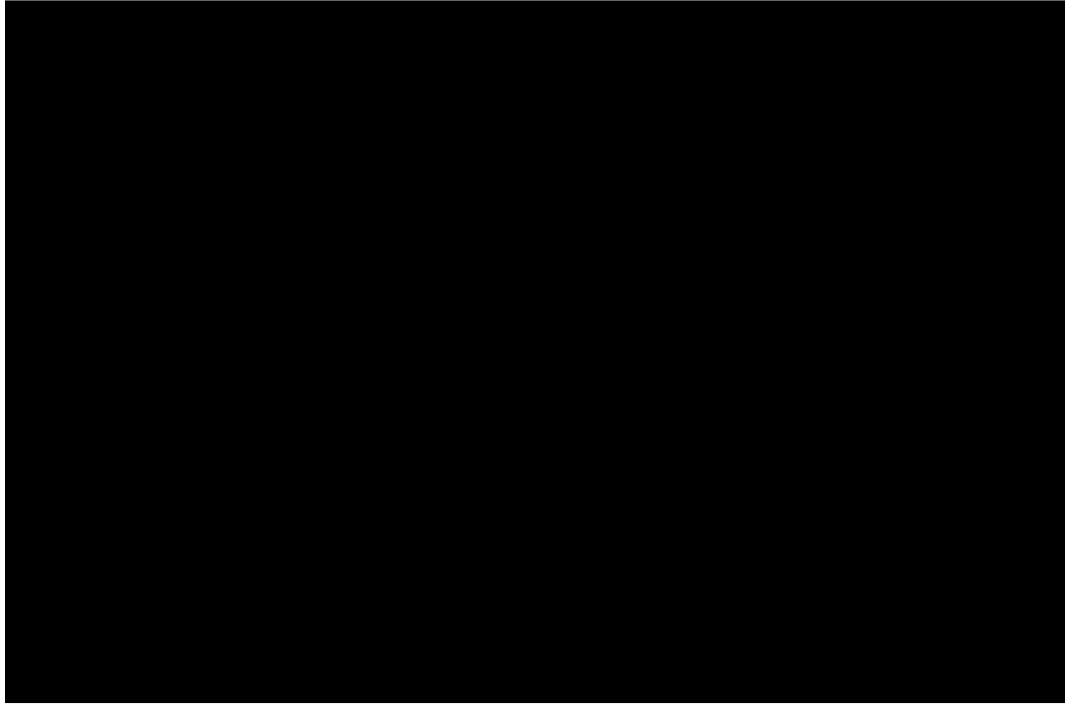


Figure 30: Kukaniloko Birthing stones. Courtesy of Karen in Honolulu.

Flowers representing each island<sup>131</sup>:

1. Niihau – Pupu Shell – White
2. Kauai – Mokihana (Green Berry) – Purple
3. Oahu – Ilima -Yellow
4. Maui – Lokelani (Pink Cottage Rose) – Pink
5. Molokai – White Kukui Blossom – Green
6. Lanai – Kaunaoa (Yellow and Orange Air Plant) – Orange
7. Kahoolawe – Hinahina (Beach Heliotrope) – Grey
8. Big Island of Hawaii – Lehua Ohia – Red

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<sup>131</sup> ProFlowers. “The Official Flowers of Hawai’i” <https://www.proflowers.com/blog/official-flowers-of-hawaii>, accessed March 24, 2018.

## Funding

The Memorial Natatorium lacks major funding necessary to upkeep the facility. The initial phase in starting this project will have to be advertised by those who are in favor of saving the Memorial Natatorium. Receiving sponsorship will help jumpstart potential funding to begin the design phase of this project. This system works in favor of the sponsors to spread word about their involvement and the Memorial Natatorium in restoration.

Another funding idea was previously stated under the programmatic elements proposed for the entire site. These programs provide job opportunities for anyone who is passionate in being of service to the Memorial Natatorium. With the intention of turning the Natatorium into a hotspot at the Diamond Head side of Waikiki, job opportunities will be on the rise, allowing the Memorial Natatorium a chance to thrive in an ever-changing society.

The museums will be another source of revenue for the Memorial Natatorium. A small fee of specific entry rates will help to keep the museums maintained and assist in other areas of upkeep. With the museums active, this gives a chance to educate not just tourists who are active in Waikīkī, but to all locals, especially children. Allowing opportunities for field trips will accomplish part of the goals of this project in recognizing and giving greater value to the Memorial Natatorium's existence. This type of relationship will give networking opportunities throughout all of Oahu to the outer islands to the rest of the world, which is a similar concept to that of the Pearl Harbor Historic Sites.

Today's generation is prolific in its usage of social media, which gives the Memorial Natatorium an opportunity to interact and keep up with the changing environment. Though it may be costly in the beginning, providing a website or having social media accounts can help to advertise the purpose of the Memorial Natatorium and communicate activities and opportunities to involve communities. Partnering with social media companies would help promote non-profit funding opportunities and spread the word about what the Memorial Natatorium is and what you can do to assist in raising money.

A major component to the Memorial Natatorium is the pool. Revenue to restore it is essential in bringing back its original intent as a “living memorial”. This type of funding can be organized and partnered with swimming organizations. This allows regular swimming meets to be held in the natatorium and ensure usage while bringing in people and generating revenue.

### Design Methodology

As stated before, there is no standard approach to commemorate fallen soldiers; any design serves the purpose in being a memorial. The challenge is how a memorial represents and commemorates soldiers in a specific location and the culture of its environment. Based on case studies and the research discovered along the design process, it is through personal interpretation that the best approach is to consider the time frame of the event that took place and the strategy utilized in creating personal experiences that make a person feel sentiment towards someone they do not know. Research on types of memorials were identified to see which approach best suits the design function while specifically considering the conditions and limits of Hawai'i. The design function is to create an extension of the original Roll of Honor, placed in front of the Memorial Natatorium displaying each individual soldier and a story that gives them some form of identity. The design and placement will enhance the Memorial Natatorium by making it appear of Hawaiian architectural style. Next, the existing lawn is currently a wasted space with no function and provides a grand opportunity for the memorial design without altering the original form of the Memorial Natatorium. In redesigning the lawn, the green space will expand to allow outdoor activities to occur, with a central “mall” leading up to the Memorial Natatorium's entrance. As a final step, the conceptual design proposal of the entire site can be a base model to assess further ways to improve the design of memorials and discover innovative ways to commemorate soldiers.



## Initial Design, Schematic Drawings + Sketches

During the research process, the discovery of types of memorials used to commemorate soldiers have been articulated as two types: monuments and utilitarian memorials. The Memorial Natatorium falls under utilitarian—giving it the term “living memorial”—honoring the Hawaiian soldiers while providing a space for swimming meets to be held and allow visitors to do swimming activities. Although the Roll of Honor lists the names of the Hawaiian soldiers and the façade of the Memorial Natatorium is a commemoration to this honor, it is unrecognizable to passersby that these men are being commemorated. The closest utilitarian memorial constructed to acknowledge soldiers is that of a memorial manuscript but tailoring this to be an extension of recognizing the Roll of Honor soldiers is not the best solution in revitalizing the Memorial Natatorium. Below are several ideas that I have looked into of modern memorials as inspiration leading to a desirable design for the Roll of Honor soldiers.

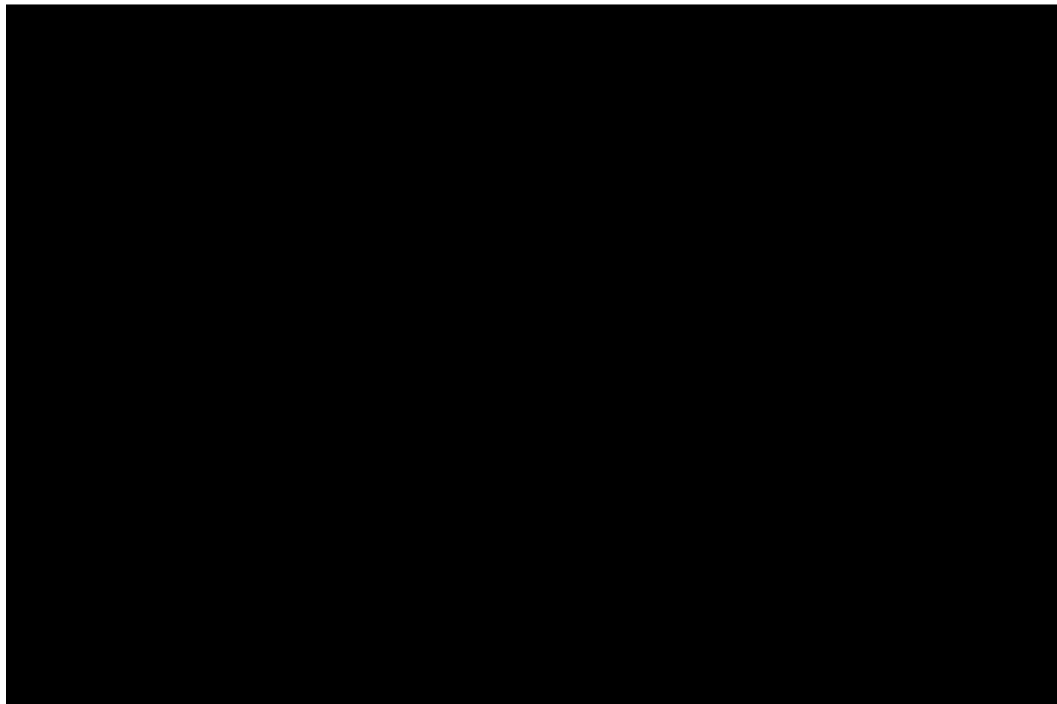


Figure 31: Memorial book displayed at the Vietnam Memorial. Courtesy of TripAdvisor.

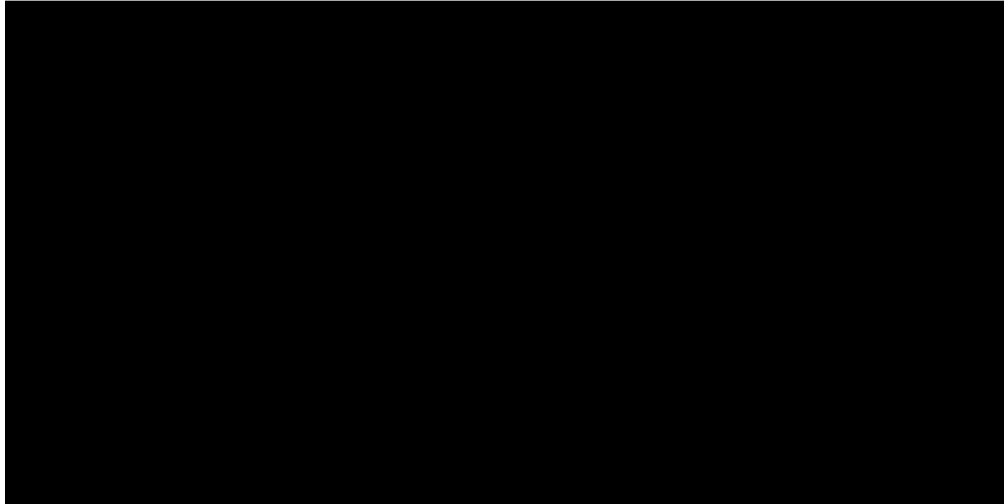


Figure 32: World War I Design Competition in Washington DC proposal by Johnsen Schmalig Architects design team of illuminated markers that convey the staggering scale of losses endured. Courtesy of Halvorson Design.

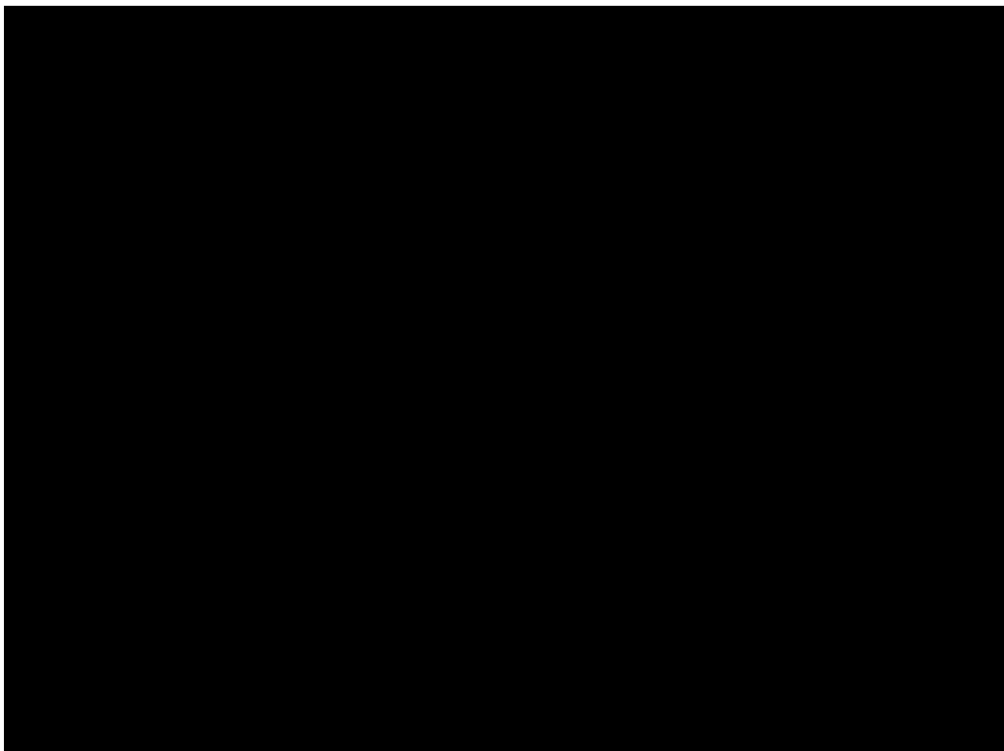


Figure 33: Laser cut silhouettes representing various uniforms and disciplines in the City of Melville War Memorial commemorating Australian soldiers. Courtesy of City of Melville website.

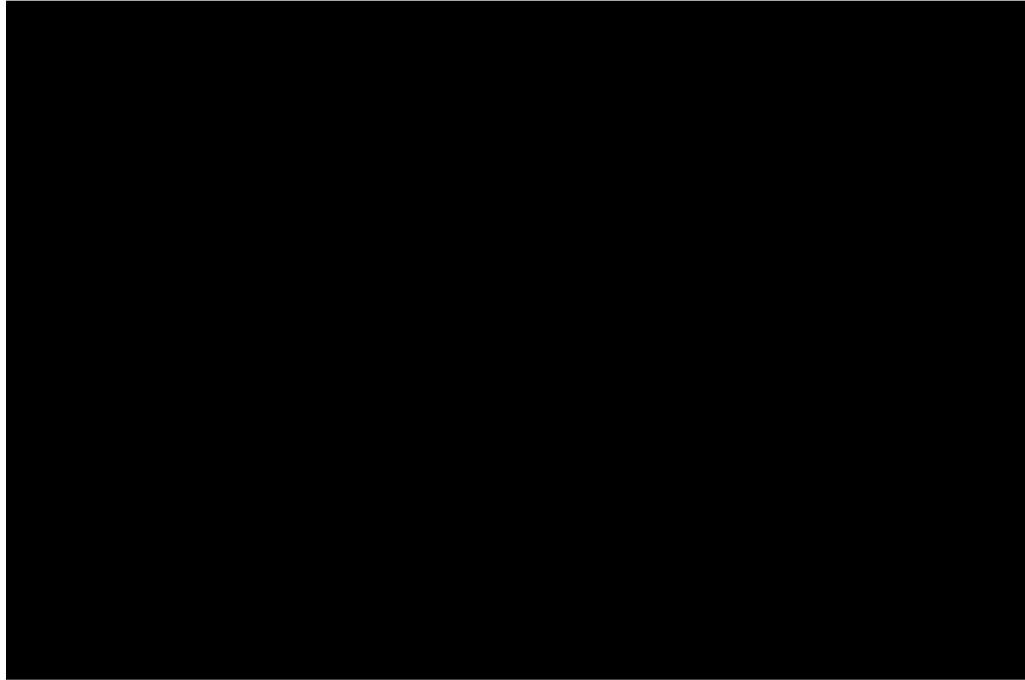


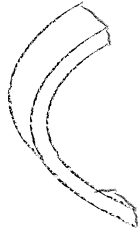
Figure 34: Translucent glass bases that honor each victim individual at the Oklahoma City National Memorial + Museum. Courtesy of the Oklahoma City National Memorial Foundation.

Extracting elements that make these memorials significant in commemorating soldiers will help people to recognize and respect the symbolic meaning of a memorial, who these soldiers were and upholding their commitment and sacrifices in defending their country.

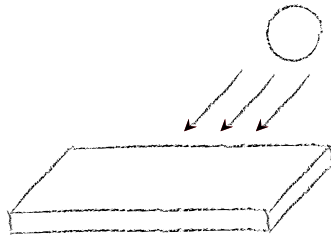
The initial design exploration in finding a suitable memorial as an extension to the original memorial was inspired by the precedents above while providing a sense of Hawaiianness. Elements to portray sense of Hawaiianness can be designed as an abstraction to appear local while adapting to a contemporary culture.



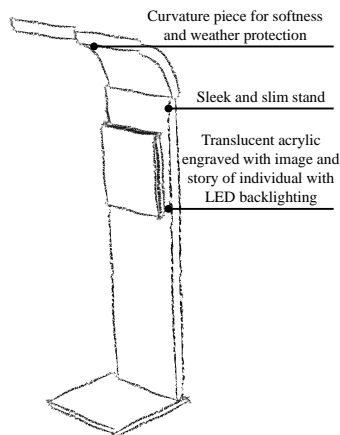
Typical plaque and stand for memorial design



Incorporate curvature form to create softness of memorial



Apply a protective piece for the exposure of natural elements



Final design iteration of individual memorial

Figure 35: Initial study of typical memorial statue and plaque with consideration to human senses and environmental elements to create memorial design iteration for Roll of Honor.

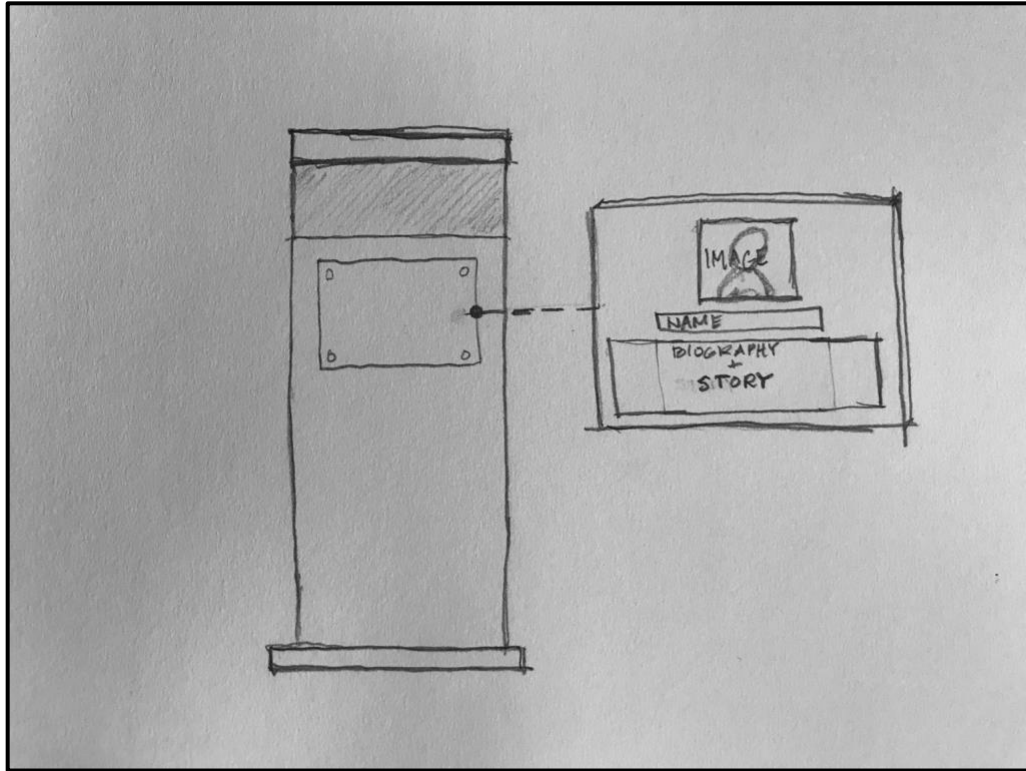


Figure 36: Close-up of memorial.



Figure 37: Render of memorial plaque.

- Schematic Drawings (See Appendix B)
- Sketches (See Appendix C)

## CHAPTER 7 CONCLUSION

The value in recognizing, honoring, and respecting the commemoration of soldiers is solely relied on the design intent of a memorial. The challenge memorials face today is having no face-value in part that society is unaware of the significance they carry through generations. Resolving this issue by providing an integrated design can bring their symbolism and significance to light, imprinting on people the intent to honor and recognize these soldiers and the heavy history carried with it.

The Waikīkī War Memorial Natatorium is a valuable entity for Hawai'i as a commemoration of her fallen soldiers in World War I and a means to reinvigorate the memory of Duke Kahanamoku and indigenous swimming in Hawai'i. Restoration is essential in continuing the existence of the Memorial Natatorium for generations to understand and appreciate the significance it holds. Without the Memorial Natatorium, Hawai'i loses a significant piece of history and disrespects the sacrifices of Hawai'i's servicemen and recognition of Hawai'i's greatest swimmers.

Restoring the Memorial Natatorium to an innovative state will bring back the purpose of being a "living memorial." Moving forward, revitalizing the site will ensure continued existence and expand the representation of what it means to commemorate someone who has passed. This experience will offer an education that is unique to the memorial, giving greater value and reconnecting with an ever-changing society.

To understand the significance of the Memorial Natatorium, validating proof in researching Hawai'i's history will highlight the events that took place leading up to the Memorial Natatorium's upbringing and the result of its value deteriorating. Hawai'i's position during the Great War was not as significant as other nations, but as a territory under the United States, she gave just as much dedication and commitment in the war. As recognition to honor all the men who have done their duty to put their lives on the line, a memorial was proposed. It turned into a small design competition, where the end results favored Hawai'i in allowing native swimmers the opportunity to participate in international swimming competitions, making the sport of swimming a highlight around the 1920s for Hawai'i.

Architecture played an important role in the design competition, for the Memorial Natatorium was constructed in the Beaux-Arts style, which was not pleasing in the nature of Hawai'i but has become a symbol in history of an era that isn't recognized amongst her people. Comments on whether the memorial actually symbolized Hawaiian soldiers or was a political statement gave concerns in keeping the historical site. Though this may have been the original intention for the Memorial Natatorium upon construction, there is still an open opportunity to restore and revitalize the site as more culturally connected with Hawai'i. As a "living memorial", the Memorial Natatorium has potential in symbolizing its original intent of commemorating the Hawaiian soldiers of the Great War in an innovative and contemporary design applicable specifically to Hawai'i. In part of being a "living memorial", it functioned as a hotspot for people to enjoy the sport of swimming after the Great War. The connection between commemoration of soldiers and athletes highlights a part of history that gives the creation of the Memorial Natatorium a symbolic value in Hawai'i.

The final design proposal is a synthesis in promoting restoration and revitalization of the Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium as a consequence to the loss of cultural and historical value it symbolizes. The base of research resulted in four main design intents for the project: first, restore the commemoration of Hawai'i's fallen in World War I and provide better insight on each individual; second, commemorate Duke Kahanamoku's swimming career leading up to the grand opening of the Memorial Natatorium and its heyday, bringing to light the importance of the sport of swimming in Hawai'i; third, educate current and future generations to ensure the significance of the Memorial Natatorium's status as a "living memorial"; lastly, revitalize the facility and its surrounding area to create greater value within the community. The four design intents create a base method in achieving three goals of this design project: first, educate current and future generations on the importance of war memorials, specifically in World War I; second, create public awareness on the cultural significance of war memorials in Hawai'i; finally, integrate a cultural aspect that can promote restoration and revitalization.

The design project requires approaches of restoration and revitalization for the Memorial Natatorium to become a "living memorial" once again. The restoration applies to the natatorium portion of the site, where the space underneath the bleachers functions



and continues to be utilized in the future. An additional restoration aspect includes the pool, which can be improved by using materials that are of low-maintenance and provides safety for users. The re-opening of the pool can provide revenue to support the Memorial Natatorium in functioning every day. Revitalization aspects can be done through the lawn sitting in front of the Memorial Natatorium, providing various outdoor activities to occur while visiting the memorial to honor the Hawaiian soldiers. The Roll of Honor plaque will be preserved as part of the proposal and as an extension in recognizing and knowing who the men were, newly designed individual plaques will be displayed in front of the Memorial Natatorium as an extension of commemoration and symbolism on the importance of each soldier during the Great War. Part of the revitalization plan is to propose museums as additional programmatic elements that will assist the entire site in having greater significance on the commemoration of the Hawaiian swimmers and the value of the Memorial Natatorium's existence. These will bring in people to visit the site as a continuing activity within Waikīkī while bringing in revenue to keep the Memorial Natatorium maintained and functioning.

The focus on the design project is specifically for the Memorial Natatorium in Hawai'i but can be a base model approach for war memorials losing significance in their society. The solution is to explore the possibilities that improve the significance of a memorial in commemorating soldiers. It allows the opportunity to bring design solutions that make the memorial and its environment an interactive and experiential moment for respecting and remembering the dead while continuing to be a living legacy of the history that took place.

## GLOSSARY

Commemorate – (v.) recall and show respect for (someone or something) in a ceremony.

Cultural – (adj.) of or relating to the ideas, customs, and social behavior of a society.

Historical – (adj.) of or concerning history; concerning past events.

Memorial – (n.) something, especially a structure, established to remind people of a person or event.

Monument – (n.) a statue, building, or other structure erected to commemorate a famous or notable person or event; a statue or other structure placed by or over a grave in memory of the dead.

Natatorium – (n.) a swimming pool, especially an indoor one.

Preservation – (n.) the activity of protecting something from loss or danger.

Restoration – (n.) the action of returning something to a former owner, place, or condition.

Rehabilitation – (n.) the action of restoring something that has been damaged to its former condition.

Revitalization – (n.) the action of imbuing something with new life and vitality.

Significance – (n.) the quality of being worthy of attention; importance.

World War I – (n.) the war fought mainly in Europe and the Middle East, between the Central Powers and the Allies, beginning on July 28, 1914, and ending on November 11, 1918, with the collapse of the Central Powers.

Abbr. WWI

Alternative names: Great War, War of the Nations

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## APPENDIX A: QUESTIONNAIRE

1. How did you become involved with the Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium?
2. Do you have any sources or information on specific details on the Memorial Natatorium I may have missed?
3. Who can I contact for personally being significant to the Memorial Natatorium?
4. Why is the Memorial Natatorium significant to you?

# APPENDIX B: SCHEMATIC DRAWINGS

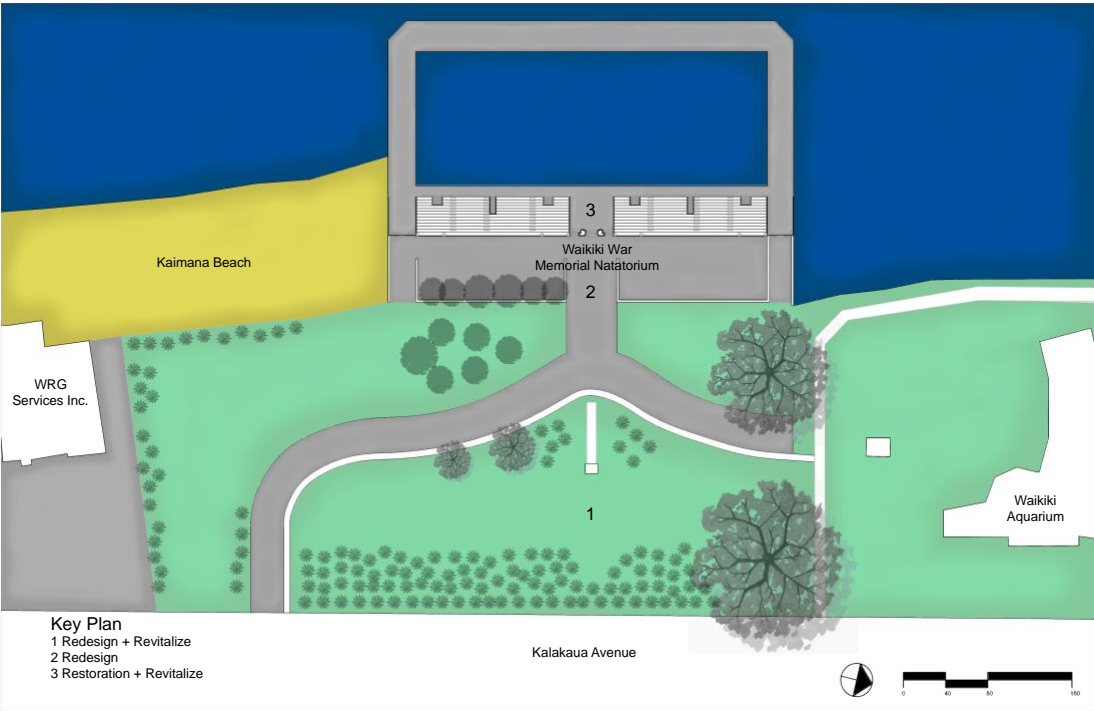


Figure 38: Existing Site Plan

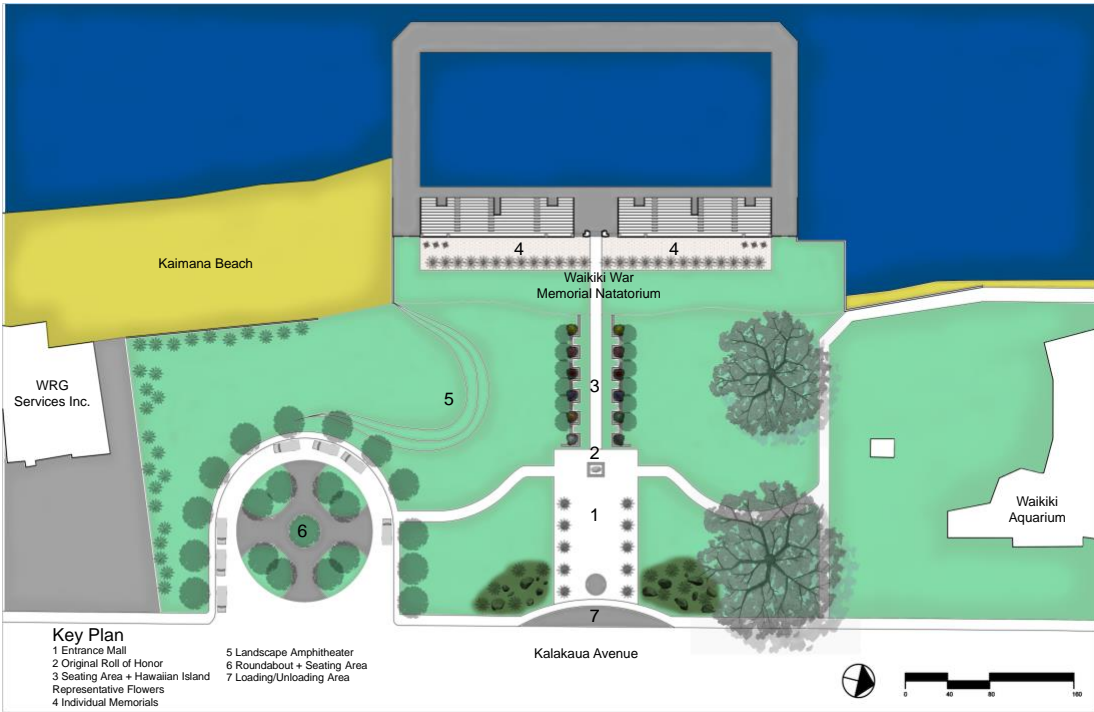


Figure 39: New Site Plan



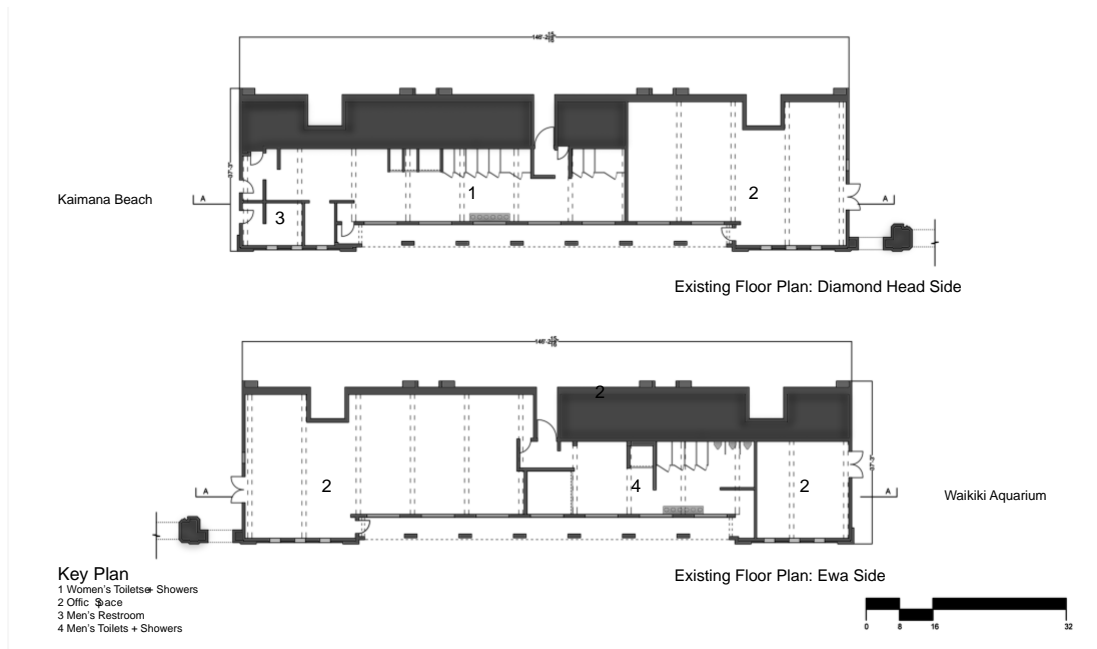


Figure 40: Existing Floor Plan of Memorial Natatorium

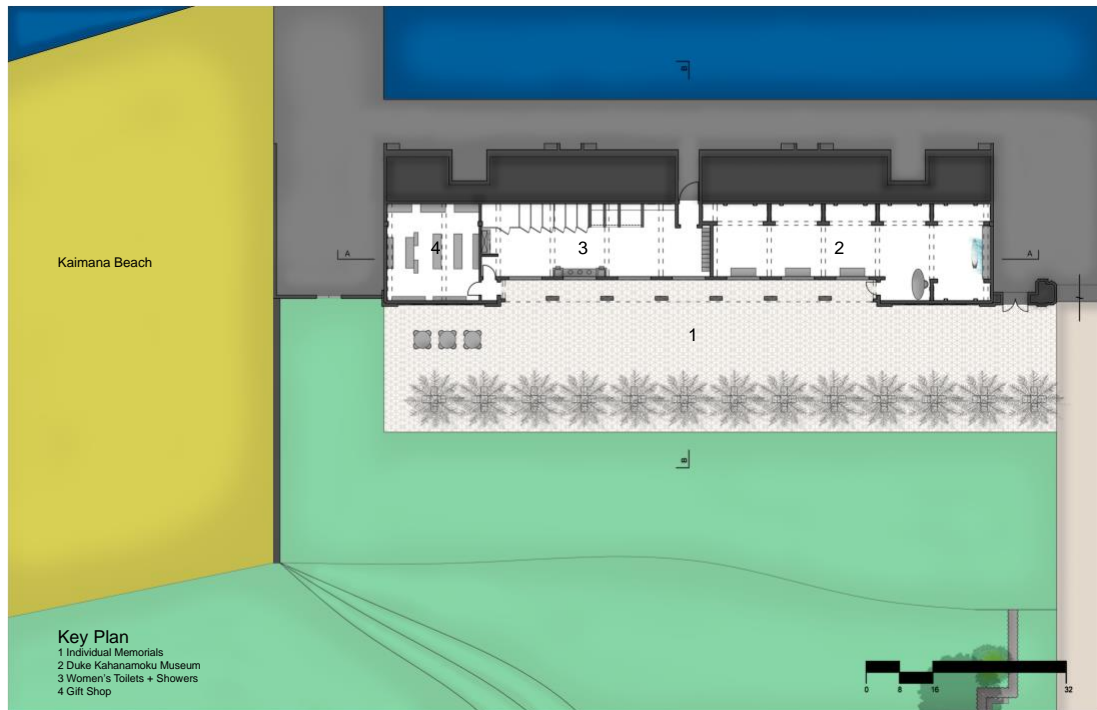


Figure 41: New Floor Plan of Memorial Natatorium: Diamond Head Side

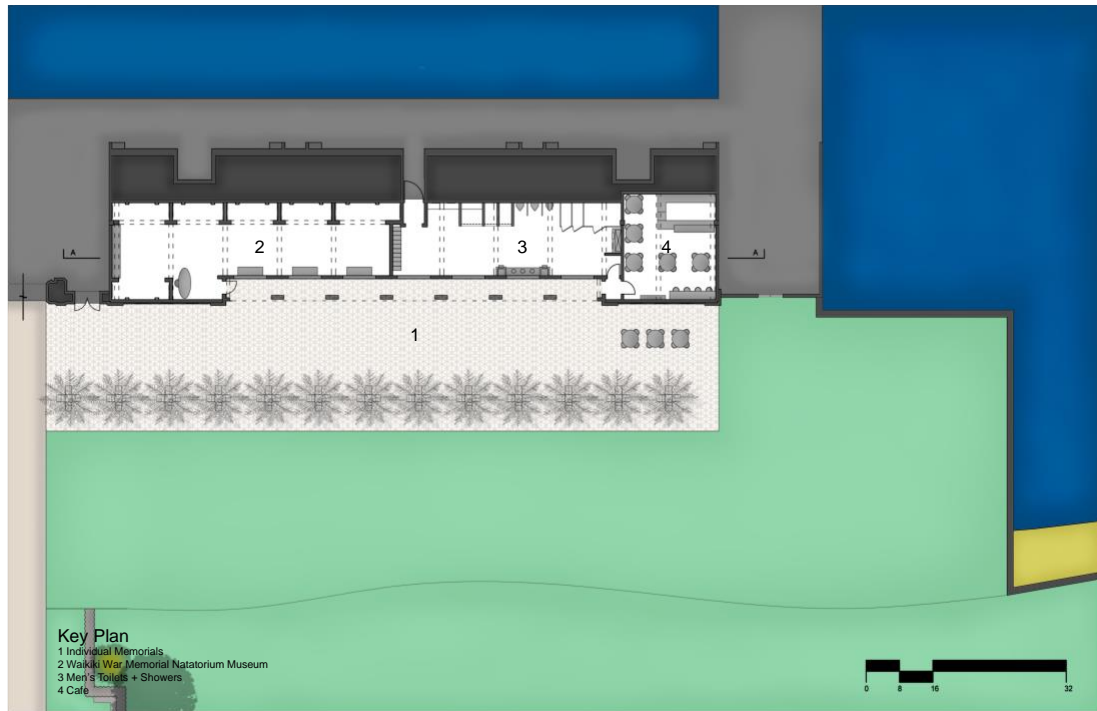


Figure 42: New Floor Plan of Memorial Natatorium: Ewa Side

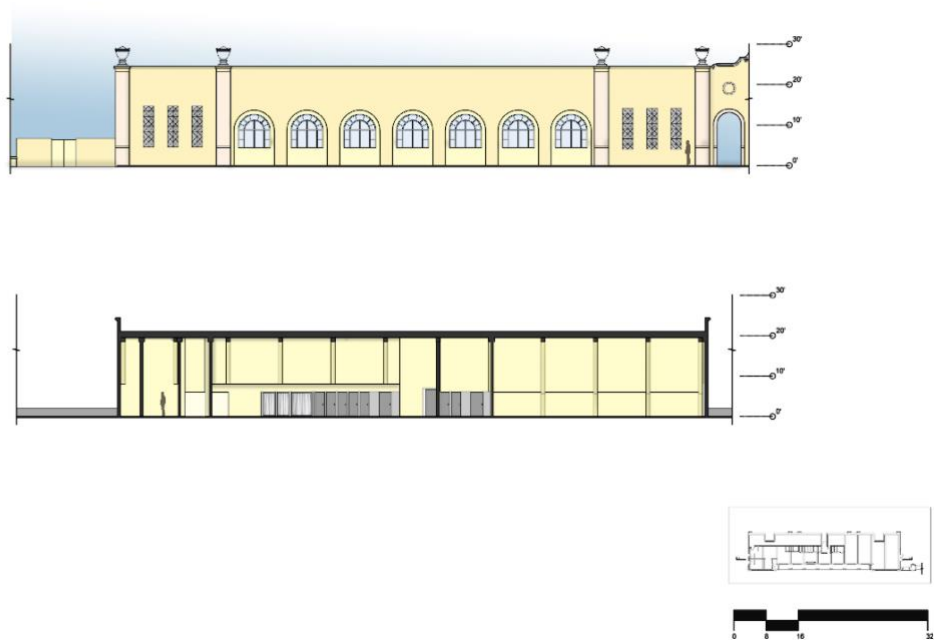


Figure 43: Existing Elevation + Longitudinal Section – Diamond Head Side

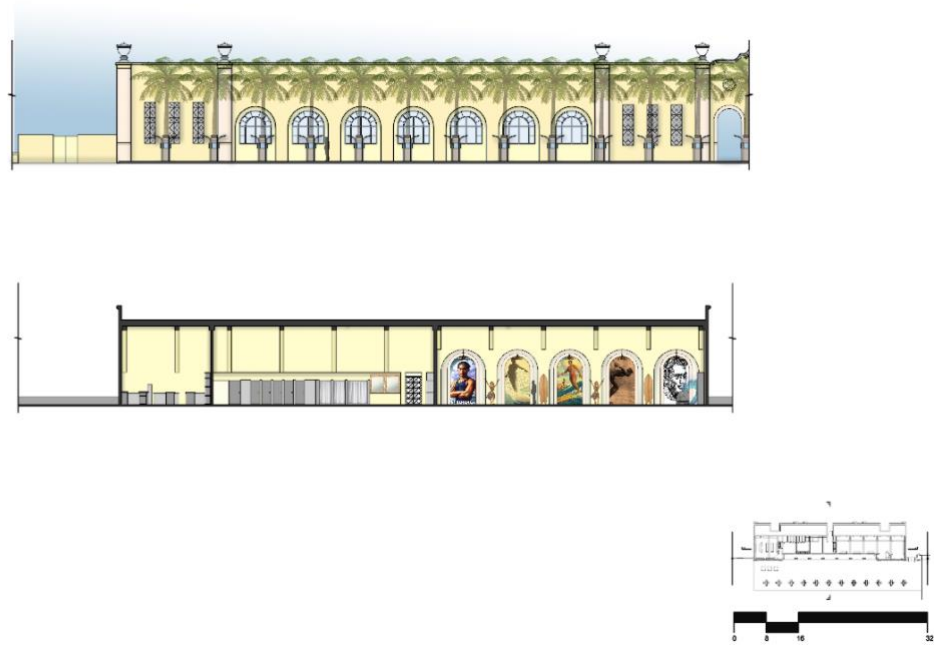


Figure 44: New Elevation + Longitudinal Section – Diamond Head Side

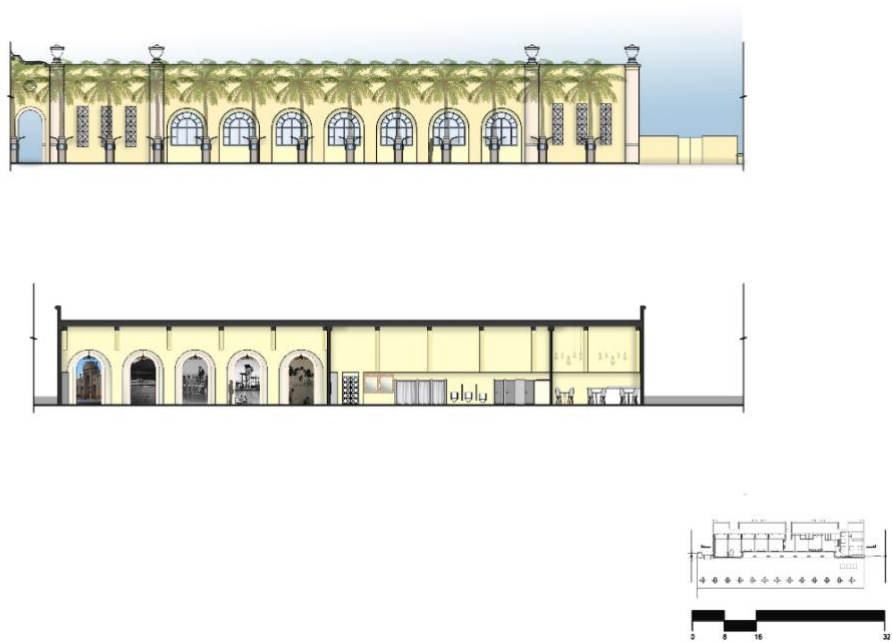


Figure 45: New Elevation + Longitudinal Section – Ewa Side

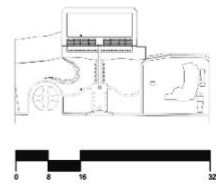
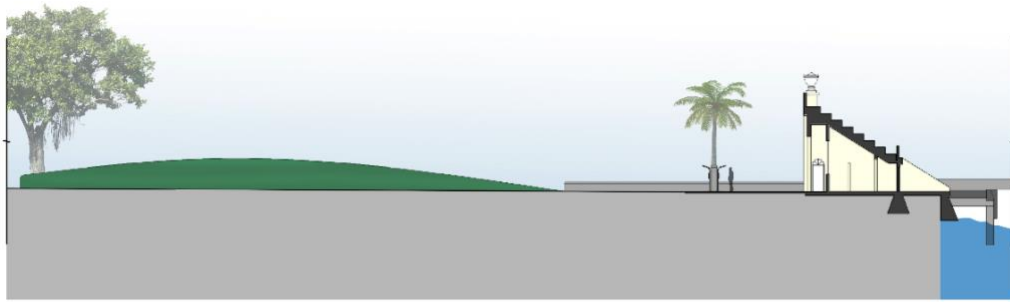


Figure 46: Cross Section



Figure 47: View of entrance mall facing Memorial Natatorium.

## APPENDIX C: SKETCHES



Figure 48: Directory at mall entrance

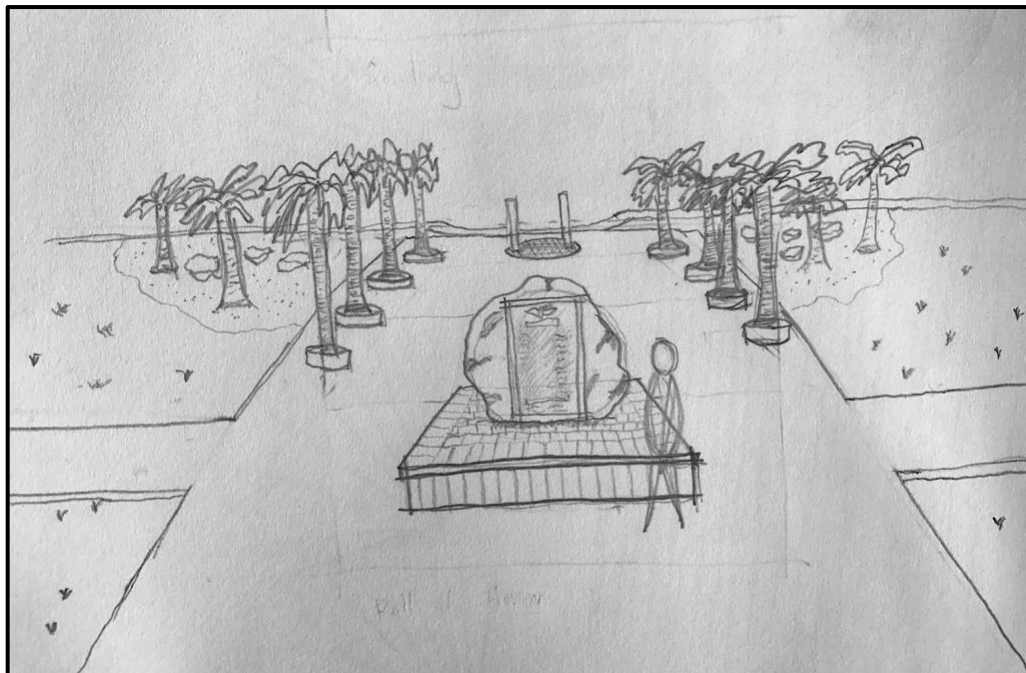


Figure 49: Roll of Honor facing mall entrance

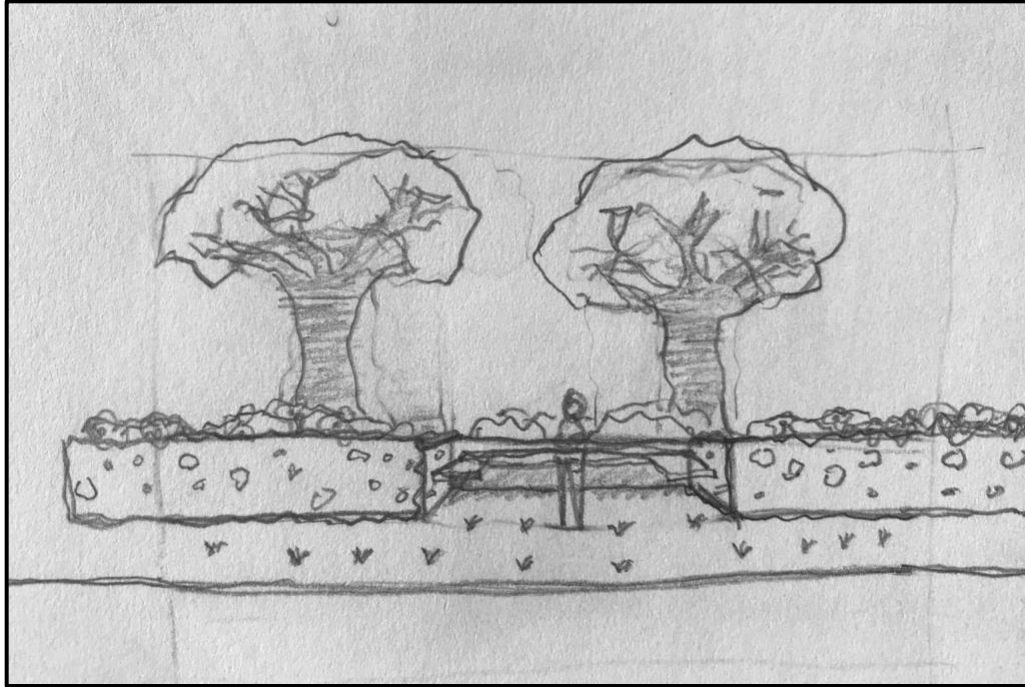


Figure 50: Bench inset on short stone wall

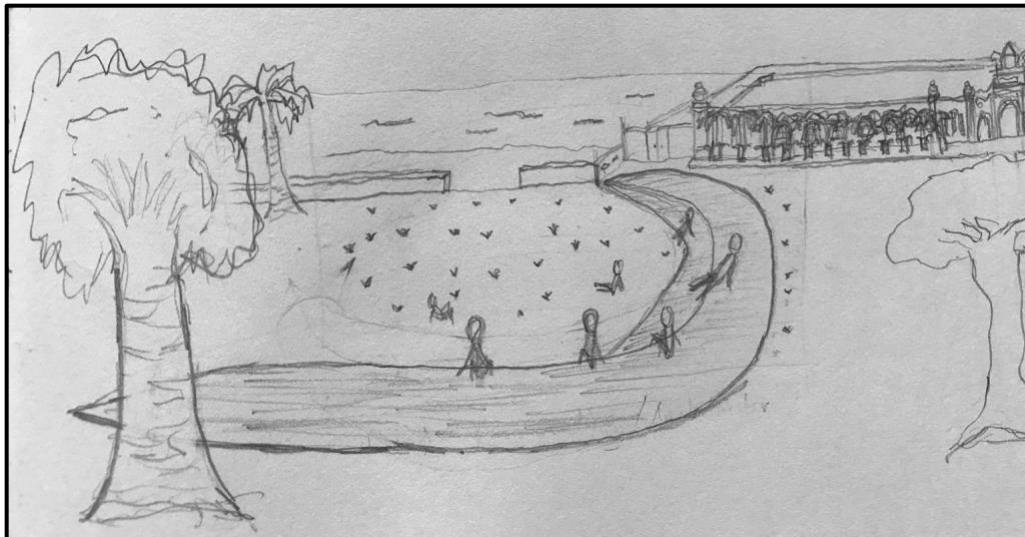


Figure 51: Landscape amphitheater facing Kaimana Beach





Figure 52: Roundabout with vendors

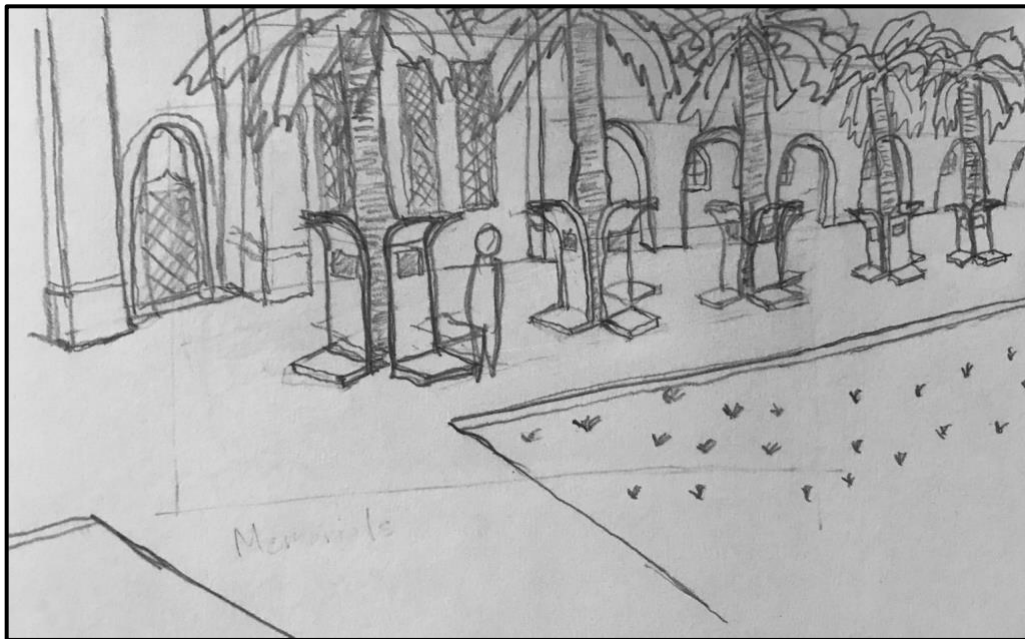


Figure 53: Ewa side: Individual memorials